

# THE TIMES

*Just in time*  
A man of property  
by Margaret  
Drabble, page 5

## Workers at Leyland plant lodge claim for 47% rise

47 per cent pay claim was lodged yesterday for 20,000 workers at Leyland's Longbridge, Birmingham, plant. The claim, which would add £1 to the present £65 a week, is in three parts covering a basic rise, an

increase for accepting changes in work methods, and extra for merging negotiating bodies. In return, the workers are offering to cooperate with the management's plans to double productivity.

### Productivity deal offered

Clifford Webb, biggest challenge yet to Government's 10 per cent guideline, came yesterday from 20,000 Leyland workers in the group's Longbridge car plant. They have submitted a part claim for a 47 per cent increase from November

to December, and a 20 per cent rise for accepting changes in work methods, and extra for merging negotiating bodies. In return, the workers are offering to cooperate with the management's plans to double productivity.

They have told management that if they cannot reach agreement on this aspect they would be prepared to settle for an index-linked rise which would give them £1 for every additional 1 per cent rise in the retail price index.

However, they hope that Leyland will be able to make a strong case to the Government for a further substantial increase to return for the productivity concessions.

Mr. Robinson said Leyland was discussing "revolutionary" methods in working methods with the intention of raising output per man from the present seven cars a year to 15 by the 1980s when the new Mini will be the only new model produced at Longbridge.

"We are not opposed to the new methods already under discussion in the participation machinery, but we expect a substantial 'buy out' by the company to obtain our cooperation. They are asking for dramatic changes in traditional methods of working with men accepting much more mobility of work.

total the claim amounts to a week, but manual workers are also asking for a bonus on a par with which include longer, better pensions and pay for lay-offs.

## Irebomb attacks by men with baby

IRA women snugged fire into the centre of Belfast under a baby in a pram. Firemen were started on the premises by the device which were mostly contained in tape cassettes. As one fireman was tackling a blaze in a different area, women narrowly escaped fire during their attacks

Page 2

### Report ordered on arms firm

A report on Defence Ministry's involvement with a British munitions company which until its closure last month was financed by the Moscow Narodny Bank has been called for by Mr. Gilbert, Minister of State for Defence. Page 3

### China silent on party congress

The eleventh congress of the Chinese Communist Party is reported to have completed its work but there has been no official confirmation from Peking. According to Chinese sources, Mr. Hua Kuo-feng was re-elected party Chairman. Mr. Cyrus Vance, the American Secretary of State, is to visit Peking next week. Page 4

Ultimate power, however, will still rest in white. Page 4

### Man to head decency squad

Under Daphne Skellern, as been appointed to take charge of the Metropolitan's obscene publications, which the leaders of Africa's Ruling National will consider today in Town. The elevation of existing ethnic councils to parliaments with full say over their own affairs is in mind, it is understood. Page 3

Ultimate power, however, will still rest in white. Page 4

### Wer shift in councils plan

last changes in local government may be carried out by Mr. Shore, Secretary of the Environment, is on altering the structure of the Environment, in particular a transfer of powers to the biggest metropolitan districts. Page 3

Ultimate power, however, will still rest in white. Page 4

## Two shot in swoop on Soweto 'bomb' class

Johannesburg, Aug. 19.—Police shot dead a black teenager and seriously wounded another person today in a raid on a Soweto school which they said gave lessons on how to make firebombs.

Some 137 pupils and teachers were detained.

Police said they went to Molotsane high school in the African township outside Johannesburg after receiving a tip-off that pupils were conducting lessons on making firebombs and booby traps.

When they arrived, about 100 youths began throwing stones at riot squads and police armoured vehicles. A policeman fired five shots from his revolver and Desmond Maluse, aged 18, died.

The wounded person was not identified, but reporters on the black newspaper, *The World*, said a housewife had been hit in the leg by a stray bullet.

Police said they found diagrams on blackboards in the classrooms showing that firebombs and booby-trap lessons were taking place.

Among the 137 arrested were 28 African women.

Police have made a general raid on Soweto schools this week in an effort to break a boycott by students protesting against an education system which they say is inferior to that for whites. About 350 people have been arrested.

Mr. Michael Botha, the Bantu (African) Administration Minister, has given the boards of 40 schools in the township—including Molotsane—until next Thursday to explain why state subsidies should not be withdrawn. The move would effectively close all the schools.

Major-General David Kriel, South Africa's chief of riot police, said that, apart from the Molotsane incident, Soweto was quiet today, but with very low attendance in the schools.

Dr. Nuhelo Modana, chairman of the township's "Committee of 10", self-appointed leadership group—says pupils are afraid to return to their classes because of police coming into the buildings. Reuter and UPI.

Page 10

Fewer police: Police strength declined by 388 in the first six months of this year, the Police Federation says.

Disabled: Local committees are proposed to study improvements in access for the disabled to public buildings, shops and offices.

Paris: M. de Guiringaud, Foreign Minister, storms home to France after "affront to dignity" in Dar es Salaam. Page 3

Mersey interview: Hugh d'David Ward on a week. Page 3

Ned Chatellat, Family: the Round House

Mr. Agee links Britain to his latest expulsion

From Michael Hornsby Brussels, Aug. 19

Mr. Philip Agee, the former agent of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), who was deported from Britain last June as an alleged security risk, said here today he believed his expulsion yesterday from France was intended to impede his work on an index of organizations and people associated with the CIA.

Mr. Agee, who resigned from the agency in 1969 after 12 years' service, arrived in Brussels last night after being held for 22 hours by French police in Boulogne where he had gone to meet his wife, Angela. He intends to move in the next few days to Holland, where he has been granted a temporary residence permit.

Mr. Agee said there appeared to have been cooperation between the French and British authorities, adding that the

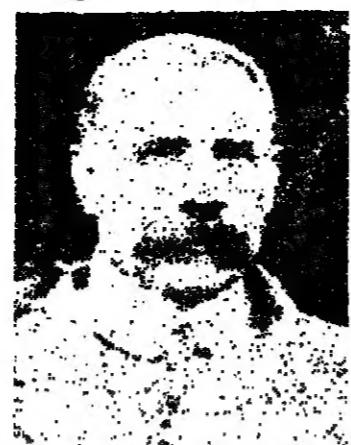
## Comparisons show that much-admired theme may not be original Enigma of Elgar's debt to a fellow composer

By Marcel Berlins  
The haunting principal theme of Elgar's *Enigma Variations* shows strong similarities with another composition which Elgar heard not long before composing his piece. The conclusion seems inescapable that, albeit probably unconsciously, the *Enigma* theme was not Elgar's own conception.

The other work is the *Requiem*, in memory of Lord Leighton, composed by Charles Villiers Stanford, a eminent Victorian composer of the late Victorian and Edwardian era, now remembered mainly for some of his songs, including "Drake's Drum". The Benedictus of the *Requiem* convincingly appears to be the progenitor of the *Enigma* theme.

The striking similarity between the two themes was noticed by Mr. Raymond Lepard, the former principal conductor of the BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra, when looking through the *Requiem* to see if it was suitable for performance by the orchestra.

Subsequently, while rehearsing the *Enigma Variations* with another orchestra, he asked them to play a few bars of the Benedictus which he had



Elgar: Listened to hundreds of works.



Stanford: Best remembered for his songs.

scored. "They gasped", he recalls, "it caused me to stop playing".

Some idea of the similarity can be gauged from comparing the main melodic themes of the two works (as shown on page 2). Mr. Lepard claims that the apparent affinity becomes even

more marked when the passages are played by a full orchestra bringing out the similar rhythmic and harmonic structures of the two themes.

It is not unusual for there to be resemblances between works, or parts of works, by different composers. Sometimes they

deliberately, at other times the similarities are completely coincidental.

It would be possible to attribute the similarities between the *Enigma* and *Requiem* themes to coincidence were it not for the knowledge that Elgar heard the *Requiem* not long before composing the *Enigma*.

Stanford had composed his *Requiem* for the Birmingham Festival of 1897. In Percy Young's biography of Elgar, for the preparation of which he had access to family papers and diaries, it states that on September 15 of that year Stanford came to visit Elgar at Forth, his Malvern home, and there played to him the *Requiem*.

The past year Elgar started work on the *Enigma Variations*, which was first performed with great success, in June, 1899. It is not suggested that Elgar deliberately used Stanford's theme. It is possible that when he sat down to work out the main theme around which the variations were to be based he was quite unconscious of it.

Continued on page 2, col 1

## Aristocrats put their backs into speaking

From Alan Hamilton  
Leeds

The science of phonetics, which can analyse, explain, describe and reproduce almost any language, dialect or other human sound, has had to admit defeat in the case of the upper-class Englishman.

Linguistic experts have concluded that the characteristic drawl of the better public schools, known to the trade as "conspicuous received pronunciation", is not capable of imitation by any means known to science.

Dr. Arnold Spector, of the linguistics department at Sunderland Polytechnic, told the international conference of the use of spoken English at Leeds University yesterday that, as far as he could discover, the English aristocracy employed the drawl of the better public schools, known to the trade as "conspicuous received pronunciation".

"If you listen to boys from certain public schools, they have only to open their mouths to utter a sound of hesitation for you to pinpoint their background. Even their cries of pain are readily identifiable", he said. "But a television pundit from Birmingham or Liverpool who attempts to speak 'conspicuous RP' does not fool anyone."

Dr. Spector and other linguists have, however, evolved a method of teaching an approximation of conspicuous RP, useful in the case of Russians and other east Europeans to whom the sounds of an Oxford college common room are particularly foreign. It requires the student to take a deep breath and enunciate the sentence as he very gently and slowly expires, using the breath rather than the vocal chords.

It is not, the teacher concedes, perfect, and "the only foreigners to whom it comes naturally are Koreans".

When a foreigner is told that he sounds like a top-drawer Englishman he is flattered, but the teaching of Oxford and BBC English as the standard form is a mere fashion. Although Dr. Spector admitted that one of his favourite speakers was Professor Sir Alfred Ayer, the Oxford philosopher and past master of RP, he agreed that the English of Leeds was just as aesthetically pleasing and just as efficient in conveying complex ideas and nuances. And that was more than could be said for Birmingham English, he added pointedly.

A Frenchman of Dr. Spector's acquaintance became a perfect speaker of slang and idiomatic English, but had to resort to a heavy Maurice Chevalier accent to impress girls.

The fashion for RP is, apparently, nothing more than an accident of history. Northumbria was once the cultural centre of England, and had it not been for the raiding Danes the upper classes might well now be spending large sums in sending their children to school to learn proper Geordie.

## Groucho ill

Los Angeles, Aug. 19.—Groucho Marx, the comedian, who is aged 86, is in a critical condition here today with a mild form of pneumonia.

The cost of Lewisham, page 2

## Earthquake in Indonesia one of worst recorded

Bali, Indonesia, Aug. 19.—An earthquake described as one of the strongest ever recorded shook a remote Indonesian island chain east of here today, toppling buildings and destroying fishing boats with a huge tidal wave. But there was no immediate word of deaths or injuries.

The earthquake sent shock waves over a vast area, forcing officials to evacuate swaying buildings 2,000 miles away in Port Moresby, Australia, and sending crowds into the streets of Ujung Pandang, the capital of South Sulawesi, 300 miles to the north of here.

Seismologists in Vienna measured the shock at an enormous 8.9 points on the Richter scale. (The non-recorded earthquake which devastated Lisbon in 1755 would have registered at 9 points, the experts say).

Worst hit appeared to be the mountainous island of Sumba, part of the Nusa Tenggara island chain stretching from Java to Timor, where local officials reported that several buildings collapsed in the main town of Waingapu.

In Lombok, 30 miles from Bali, several large buildings including a government office and a market hall collapsed, according to Bali police. In Bali itself, a favourite tourist spot, the earthquake was clearly felt, causing frightened holidaymakers to run from the water.

Sumba, known chiefly for its valuable sandalwood during Dutch colonial rule, is relatively lightly populated.

In Port Hedland, on the north coast of Western Australia, parked cars bounced up and down, buildings rattled and electricity was temporarily cut. In Perth, many workers said they felt seasick as their buildings swayed and the whole skyline of the city appeared to be moving. The tremor lasted for about five minutes.

The application for planning permission was made in February last year, immediately after the council served an enforcement notice saying that there was no permission for the use to which the first floor was being put.

The appeal against Richmond council was heard in April by a Department of the Environment inspector. His report was published yesterday and it recommends that the Front be allowed to use the house, 91 Connaught Road, as offices for

## Labour and Tories pleased with Birmingham by-election result

By David Wood  
Political Editor

Both the main parties but none of the other eight candidates found reason for rejoicing in the result of the Birmingham, Ladywood, by-election, announced early yesterday.

Labour held the seat fairly comfortably, with 8,227 votes though that was more than 6,000 votes fewer than at the general election of October, 1974. Conservatives registered a two-party swing of 9 per cent, which fell below recent by-election achievements but would still give Mrs. Thatcher a majority of 90 to 100 seats in the Commons on a national projection. The Tory candidate had 4,402 votes.

None of the other eight candidates managed a four-figure poll and three were in two figures. The most shattering blow was felt by the Liberals, who won the seat on different parliamentary boundaries at the election in 1968. Their candidate was obliterated and driven into fourth place by the National Front's standard bearer.

The Labour victory contrasted into political sense by the fact that several factors promised to make fresh. Not only is Ladywood a wildly untypical constituency, with more than a third of the voters on the register coloured immigrants in an area that looks like a bombed site; there had also been outbursts of violence against the police by extreme left-wingers and troublemakers, and three party headquarters had been broken into.

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## HOME NEWS

## IRA women hide pile of firebombs under baby in pram

From Christopher Walker  
Belfast

Two Provisional IRA women who smuggled an arsenal of incendiary bombs into the centre of Belfast concealed under a baby in a pram were being sought by the security forces last night.

By yesterday evening, the police had logged 27 malicious fires over a 24-hour period. Most of them were caused by incendiary bombs concealed in tape cassettes that were planted by the women on Thursday.

Responsibility for the attacks was claimed by the Provisional IRA. It was the organization's first concerted offensive since its failure to disrupt the Queen's silver jubilee visit to Northern Ireland.

Many of the bombs were dealt with before they caused serious damage, but fires were started in shops and offices used by the Belfast education and library board. At one point yesterday morning 180 firemen were fighting fires in different parts of the city. Because of the attacks Bel-

fast shopkeepers have been told to remove displays that could be used to conceal the devices and to lock internal doors on their premises.

Detectives have discovered that the women were nearly caught by an angry crowd on Thursday afternoon after abandoning their pram and running away with the baby.

People stopped the women, thinking that they were involved in a baby-snatching. But they convinced the crowd that their pram had broken and escaped into a side street before two more incendiary bombs were found hidden under the blankets.

Despite the inability of the Provisional IRA to carry out its exaggerated threats against the royal visit, subsequent republican propaganda has glossed over the failure. The latest edition of *An Phoblacht*, the movement's newspaper, describes the relatively low number of violent incidents during the visit as "a story of revolutionary triumph and imperial disgrace".

## Mixing a soup to suit all tastes

By Hugh Clayton

Manufacturers of packet soups have found that traditional preferences are coming back into popularity, after being dominated for a generation by "convenience" groceries. Knorr, one of the largest soup makers in Britain, has abandoned its national marketing strategy after a year of research. It found that leek soup, for example, sold badly in Wales, and many Scottish shoppers used packet soups as a base and could not be persuaded to use them on their own.

Soup is one of the foods which have most successfully challenged home-made products. Although four out of every five helpings of soup served in Britain come from a tin or a packet, however, regional preferences have survived.

Soup researchers believe that more than two of every five soup helpings are served as snack meals rather than the first course of a meal. So families have paid more attention to the texture and flavour of processed soup and have come to expect more from it.

"The formal family meal eating habit is breaking down", Mr Paul Slaymaker, marketing manager for Knorr, said yesterday. "The trend is very much to use thicker soups as a substitute lunch."

The company, part of the North American Corn Products maize-refining and grocery combine, has therefore switched from 11 varieties of packet soup sold throughout the country, to 16 varieties.

Knorr has found that Scottish families eat more soup than others and make much more themselves. The company has tried to meet their preferences with a highland leek soup.

The North of England, where Knorr says soup is expected to be thinner and less meaty than in the South, will have a north country mushroom soup. The south and Wales will lose some varieties, which were sold nationally until yesterday, but will gain a thick vegetable and lamb soup.

"I am not personally in favour of this, but I do not see that there is any alternative but to have a system like the one they use in Germany", he said.

It was said that the number of women plying their trade by sitting in ground floor rooms lit by red lamps was increasing.

## MP calls for prostitution to be made legal

From Our Correspondent  
Southampton

Mr Richard Mitchell, MP for Southampton, is to press for legalized prostitution in Britain, with brothels run under strict medical supervision.

His proposal was discussed at a meeting with the red light district in the Derby Road area. Mr Bryan Gould, MP for Southampton, Test, was also present.

It was said that the number of women plying their trade by sitting in ground floor rooms lit by red lamps was increasing.

The number had diminished previously because of a successful police prosecution.

Mr Mitchell plans to discuss legalized prostitution with the Home Secretary, and says he is prepared to form a pressure group of MPs with vice difficulties in their constituencies to press for the necessary legislation. He said he would try to enlist support from MPs from areas like Leicester and Birmingham.

"I am not personally in favour of this, but I do not see that there is any alternative but to have a system like the one they use in Germany", he said.

It was said that the number of women plying their trade by sitting in ground floor rooms lit by red lamps was increasing.

He said that the National Front had done less well than in the Stockton by-election and thought that was "exceedingly encouraging to decent people".

And the Liberals? "There is not much point in voting Liberal at the moment in a city like Ladywood", Mr. Walden said.

He noted that the National

Front had done less well than in the Stockton by-election and

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## HOME NEWS

Report to be  
made on  
irms firm's  
Soviet link

Henry Stanhope  
Soviet Correspondent

Mr Gilbert, Minister of State for Defence, has called for a report on ministry involvement in Cylinder Formings Ltd, a Soviet-owned company which until sudden closure last month was financed by a Russian bank.

Concern has arisen in case Moscow Narodny Bank, which foreclosed on the company and appointed a receiver, might now have access to secret details of work carried out for British and allied armed forces.

The ministry said last night: "In the evidence at present available, no contract involving sensitive information was given to Cylinder Formings either by the ministry or by Nato." It said that it had taken a decision to that effect two years because of the connection with the bank.

The company, which employed about 500 people, was set up in Weston-super-Mare in 1965 to perfect an unusual method of making steel cylinders. It became involved in munitions, notably in making cartridge cases for the French and Belgian forces.

It was a subcontractor for the company, which entered into a contract with the Royal Ordnance Factory over making cartridge cases for the Jaguar aircraft. Progress when the company was taken over by the Royal Ordnance Factory.

Roger Felber, former managing director of Cylinder Formings, who has been involved in the work involved in the secret of a confidential nature, has been released.

He had no reason to believe that the Narodny bank, which had been based in London since before the Russian invasion, had any intention of gaining possession of the firm. There was no action on the receiver to them.

The theory is that the bank is part-owned by the Bank for Foreign Trade, how it money because of a change from an alliance to an all-Soviet board management. It is thought the new Russian managers, discovering that the company was working for Nato, decided that the Kremlin could not approve of the connection.

John Taylor, leader of Midlands County Council, called for an inquiry on today. Anglo-Soviet links did have a sensitive since it was disclosed last that the Army's Scorpion tank had been supplied with Soviet-made spare for its cooling system.

## il for financier £200m charge

Albert Messaca, an international finance broker, was ad last totalling £10,000 in Street Magistrates Court today when extradition proceedings brought by the police were adjourned.

Messaca had been in court awaiting the hearing of the proceedings on a charge of obtaining a promissory note for more than £200m in cash. The case involves Société Générale bank.

### body found

Body of Wayne Davies, 13, of Winslow Gardens, Weymouth, was found on the foot of steep Aberystwyth yesterday. He had disappeared after for a walk while on holiday with his father.

## Mr Shore set on early transfer of local government powers

By Christopher Warman  
Local Government Correspondent

While the Labour Party develops its long-term strategy for local government reform, publishing this week in the form of a "manifesto" document, there is an increasing likelihood of important changes soon.

Ever since Mr Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, "thought aloud" about the subject to the party's local government conference in January, he has been steadily pursuing his intention to alter the structure and certain functions of the counties and districts where he sees the need. If his plans come to fruition, legislation would be necessary in the next parliamentary session. With pressure on the timetable caused by devolution proposals that might be difficult, but Mr Shore is considering putting his ideas into action.

The Association of District Councils, whose memoranda on devolution and change have impressed him, have asked to meet Mr Shore in the next few weeks. Mr Shore has written to the Association of County Councils and the Association of Metropolitan Authorities because he is anxious to hear their views, and it is likely that early September will see a round of meetings that will take the process further.

## Reformers warm to Tory leader

By A Staff Reporter

The new journal of the Tory Reform Group, the Reformer, launched today, carries a front page leading article saying that the group is "less anxious" than it was about Mrs Thatcher's leadership of the party. Sharing the front page are welcoming messages from Mrs Thatcher and Mr Edward Heath.

The article says that the group is shedding its old personality cult and left-wing label. "The TRG still has not won the day and while there are still some Tories living in the dark ages we shall have to be vigilant in the defence of the spirit of One Nation", it says.

"We are less anxious than previously about the leadership of Margaret Thatcher who, in her Ian Macleod memorial lecture, has shown by her passion for individual freedom with constraints, limits to state intervention and hatred of the logical course of socialism, that the things which divide us are fewer than those which unite us. And the divisions are becoming less."

## Needs of disabled 'still forgotten in planning'

By Ian Bradley

The needs of the disabled are still not often enough considered in the design and running of buildings and facilities, according to Mr Peter Large, chairman of the Silver Jubilee Committee on Improving Access for Disabled People.

He cites the inability of people in wheelchairs to get into telephone boxes, the absence of ramps between auditoriums and bars in many theatres and concert halls, and the strict enforcement of fire regulations barring the disabled from lifts in multistorey buildings.

The committee was set up in June at the suggestion of Mr Morris, Under-Secretary of State (Disabled), to consider ways of promoting mobility among Britain's 150,000 wheelchair invalids, 100,000 blind and half-blind deaf.

Next week the committee is

holding a meeting to discuss the needs of the disabled in the public sector.

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## OVERSEAS

## Proposal for ethnic parliaments in South Africa would still leave power in white hands

From Ray Kennedy  
Johannesburg, Aug 19

The caucus of South Africa's ruling National Party begins crucial talks in Cape Town tomorrow which could lead to the dismantling of the country's present "Westminster" system of government and a measure of power sharing with the Indian and Coloured communities, but not with the majority blacks.

Mr Vorster, the Prime Minister, flew to Cape Town from Pretoria today after talks with the Indian and Coloured leaders to brief them about the planned constitutional changes.

Details have not been given but Mr Sonny Leon, leader of the Coloured Labour Party and an implacable foe of the Government, said afterwards: "We have always asked for this type of consultation."

It is believed the proposals include elevating the existing Coloured and Indian representative councils to full parliaments with powers equal to the white parliament and giving them full autonomy over their own affairs.

The majority parties in the ethnic parliaments will elect members to a president's council of 60 to 100 representatives which will elect a president for a three-year term. The council will be elected on a proportionate basis in the ratio of four whites to two Coloureds and one Indian—which will mean

that ultimate power would still rest in white hands.

The proposals have first of all to be ratified by the National Party caucus and then by its four provincial congresses before being submitted to Parliament for the enactment of any constitutional changes.

However, the exclusion of blacks from the discussions has been strongly criticized by Mr Nthato Motlana, leader of Soweto's Committee of 10 whose plan for urban black development has been ignored by the authorities.

General Magnus Malan, the chief of the South African Defence Force, has called for a "unique solution to South Africa's unique problem". Mr Botha is far from being a radical even in National Party terms.

He said the Westminster model of government had never worked in Africa and was starting to fail in Britain as Scotland and Wales sought independence.

Mr Vorster, it is believed, has offered to serve as the first executive president with full executive powers, as in France.

As president he would appoint a prime minister who could form his own multi-racial Cabinet which would deal with matters of common concern but not those specifically of interest to the separate parliaments.

## New Soviet pledge on Yugoslavia's freedom

Moscow, Aug 19.—President Tito today secured a new public pledge from President Brezhnev that the Soviet Union will respect Yugoslavia's right to chart its own course.

The assurance was made in a joint communiqué issued here when the 35-year-old Yugoslav leader left Moscow after two days of talks with Mr Brezhnev.

The two countries agreed that their relations and links between the two parties should be based on respect for sovereignty, independence, equality and non-interference, and on the freedom to choose different ways of socialist development, it said.

The wording, identical to that of a communiqué issued when Mr Brezhnev visited Belgrade last November, indicated a continued Soviet interest in developing Yugoslav concern, observers said.

Recent Soviet attacks on "Eurocommunism" have revived uneasiness in Yugoslavia about Moscow's real attitude to other independent-minded Communist parties, and President Tito was believed anxious to secure fresh Soviet guarantees on the issue. The communiqué indicated he had been successful.

No direct reference was made to the debate over "Eurocommunism", although the two leaders were said to have reviewed topical questions of the world Communist movement. Both expressed determination to work for more co-operation between different parties on the basis of principles laid down at last year's European Communist summit in Berlin.

At that meeting Moscow acknowledged the freedom of other parties to decide their own way of achieving communism. Observers said the communiqué's emphasis on its "great significance" could also be seen as a concession to Yugoslav feelings.—Reuter.

## Mr Vance to discuss full recognition of China

From Our Own Correspondent: Washington, Aug 19

Mr Cyrus Vance, the American Secretary of State, will discuss the possibility of establishing full diplomatic relations with China when he visits Peking next week.

The Secretary of State leaves Washington tomorrow for a week-long visit to China and Japan that will include the first high-level contact between the Americans and Chinese since President Carter took office at the beginning of the year.

But State Department officials here have cautioned against expectations that Mr Vance's mission to Peking will produce conclusive results.

The Administration was somewhat concerned by the

urgency in recent comments by Senator Edward Kennedy about American relations with China. In a carefully timed speech in Boston earlier this week Senator Kennedy said the Administration had had "a major opportunity" to set the stage for resuming full diplomatic relations as early as next year.

This could be achieved, he suggested, if the United States switched recognition from Taiwan to Peking while maintaining "unofficial relations" with Taiwan for its military security and economic support.

This is one solution. But the Administration does not want to tie its hands too firmly to any single formula before Mr Vance has had a chance to discuss all the options with the new Chinese leadership.

His award of \$1,000 each had been decided in part by provisions in an Act of Congress of 1968 which created a right to civil recovery for individuals whose telephone or oral conversations were intercepted without legal sanction by wire taps or eavesdropping. The legislation set a basic damages figure of \$100 a day or \$1,000 whichever is larger.—New York Times News Service.

According to the complaint, Mr Bhutto defied his political opponents and used the security forces to liquidate opposition leaders.

He is also accused of diverting at least 4.2m rupees (\$250,000) to his own party, some of which was spent on buying arms for party workers to use against political opponents.

Meanwhile, Mr Attaullah Mengal, the former Chief Minister of Baluchistan, who is facing charges of anti-state activities with Mr Abdul Wali Khan, president of the outlawed National Awami Party, has been released in Karachi on bail.

Mr Mengal, who has been in prison for the last three years, is suffering with heart trouble and is expected to go to the United States soon for surgery.

General Zia ul-Haq, the chief martial law administrator, today ordered Government control of radio and television broadcasts, especially on news and political commentaries, to be eased.

Radio and television corporations were told to take measures to restore neutrality and objectivity in their broadcasts. In the past these had openly supported the government of the day.

Several statements have been made in courts and in the press by political leaders alleging excesses during Mr Bhutto's term of office, but Mr Zahir Elahi's complaint appears to be the most serious accusation yet against the former Prime Minister.

According to informed sources, he urged the Greek Government to enter into direct talks with Turkey. While West Germany was not seeking the role of mediator, it was eager to see an easing of tensions between the two countries.

Speaking in London, the bishop—who was forced into exile last February, two days after the death of the Anglican Archbishop of Uganda, the Most Rev Janani Luwum—said the time would soon come for Ugandans to rebuild their country.

Bishop Kivengere told of his new project, "Kutuva", which aims at helping Ugandans in exile abroad.

On which side should have sovereignty in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip but he said that during the recent talks efforts had focused on finding a way of life together in an undivided West Bank based on a "functional division".

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# Saturday Review

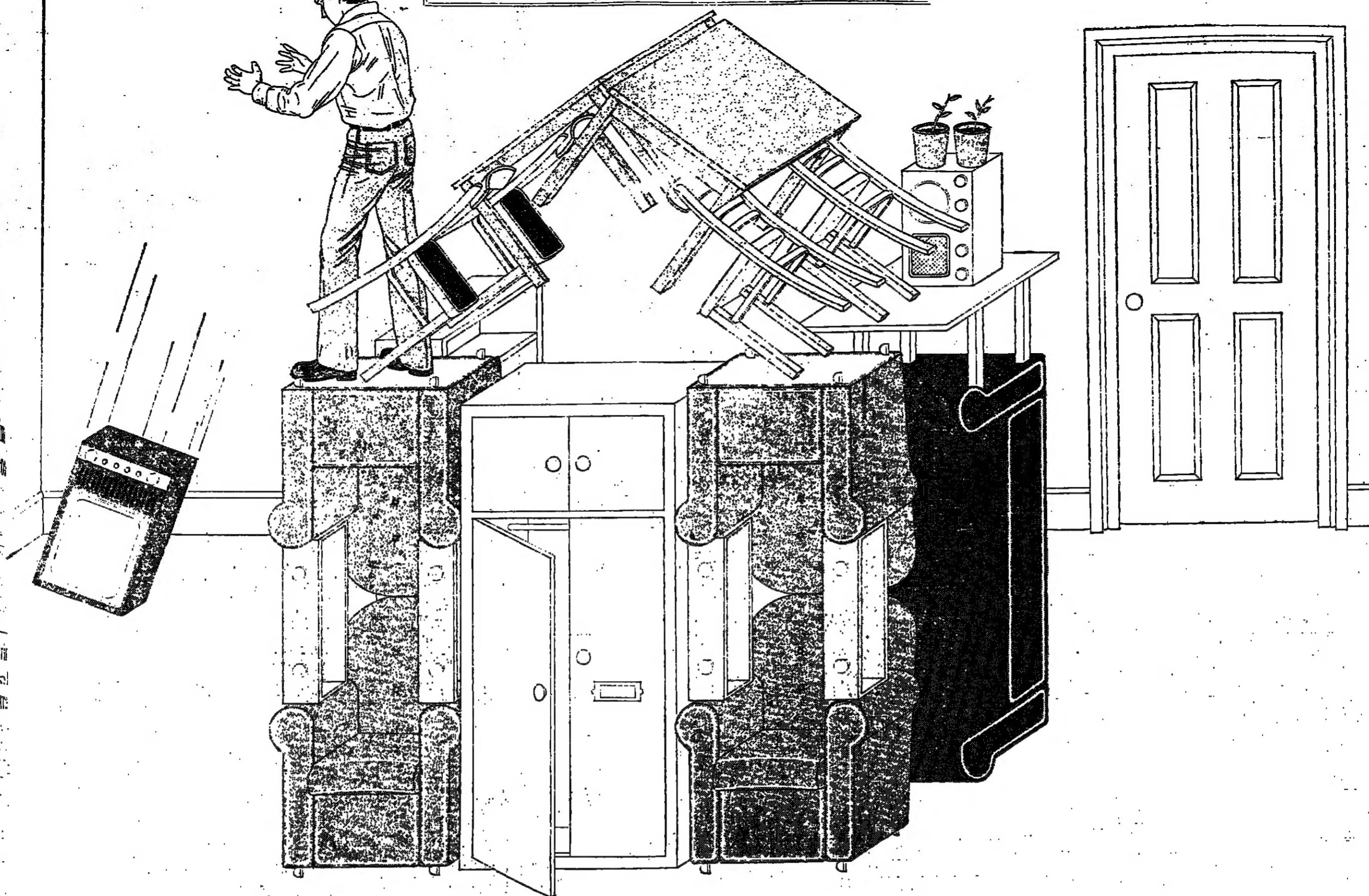


Illustration by Robin Harris

## A man of property

by Margaret Drabble

parents had always said that he would become a professional man, of one sort or another; his two elder brothers were barristers. But Anthony, with a baby and a wife and another baby on the way, did not seem to have the time to train for a career. He did not think he had a good enough education to enter the Civil Service, he did not much like a civil servant. So what was left? It must be said it never once crossed Anthony's mind that he might get a job in industry, he was, but not to such great; so deeply rooted are some sections of the nation that some of us are deeply attached to them. Despite the fact that major companies were then appealing urgently to recruit in any field, the fact that the old press was full of offers, the college boards plastered with Anthony Keating, child of a professional middle class reared in an anachronistic as an anachronism; he did not see the offers; he past them daily, with as much reverence as if they had been in Turkish or Persian. He thought himself to be that kind of thing: end of advertisement was at bourses and sloggers. men of vision like Keating. His nearest thought to contemplating a job at this stage, was the Civil Service on an ad tour, an offer he did largely because it included two free nights in London. He spent in a hotel Crowne Plaza with a bar. Baby, but he was off on his trip round home. Office by the about pensions and pensions made by underlings of 19 that he did that, that kind of y was certainly not for

Establishment (then a vague but fashionable catchphrase), deplored the fact that so many of his two elder brothers were barristers. But Anthony, with a baby and a wife and another baby on the way, did not seem to have the time to train for a career. He did not think that he had a good enough education to enter the Civil Service, he did not much like a civil servant. So what was left? It must be said it never once crossed Anthony's mind that he might get a job in industry, he was, but not to such great; so deeply rooted are some sections of the nation that some of us are deeply attached to them. Despite the fact that major companies were then appealing urgently to recruit in any field, the fact that the old press was full of offers, the college boards plastered with Anthony Keating, child of a professional middle class reared in an anachronistic as an anachronism; he did not see the offers; he past them daily, with as much reverence as if they had been in Turkish or Persian. He thought himself to be that kind of thing: end of advertisement was at bourses and sloggers. men of vision like Keating. His nearest thought to contemplating a job at this stage, was the Civil Service on an ad tour, an offer he did largely because it included two free nights in London. He spent in a hotel Crowne Plaza with a bar. Baby, but he was off on his trip round home. Office by the about pensions and pensions made by underlings of 19 that he did that, that kind of y was certainly not for

despite the pregnant and then the trying Anthony himself, at this thought that there was not very nice about One had to have some on, of course, but one not to concentrate too upon the matter. His left-wing, like of most arts undergraduate he disapproved of the

minent position as fashionable witty young man. Giles was neither handsome nor witty; one of the hard lessons of his sixties was the spectacle of his frequent sexual successes (successes followed by disasters, it is true, but when has the maintenance of sexual happiness been rated as highly as the acquiring of it?). Giles was tall, ungainly and already slightly overweight: he had reddish hair and a red complexion, whereas Anthony was tall and dark and pale of skin. As an undergraduate, Giles was interested in the arts, and hung around stage doors and exhibitions and got himself invited to theatre parties; he gave lavish parties himself, which made him a welcome if not wholly popular guest. The clever set thought Giles was a bit odd but quite sweet: a bit of a bore, but not quite a bore. He had a kind of self-confidence and rudeness that made his social inadequacies appear liberating and therefore acceptable. And he had a few or three marked successes with the lovely Chloe Vickers, one of the most popular girls in Oxford, who could have taken her pick of all the wealthy young men around. Anthony and his friends, bewildered by Giles' incongruous liaison, tried to persuade themselves that Giles had simply bored and bought her into acquiescence, but they were guiltily aware that this love sprang from a very deep desire to underrate Giles. And Anthony himself did not, in fact find Giles at all boring, though he did not know why. He was not witty, he had no verbal elegance, indeed was rather slow of speech and quickness was in others one of the qualities that Anthony most prized. But Giles had some other, indefinable, at this stage incomprehensible virtues, that made him interesting company.

He also had a great deal of money. His father had made a great deal of money, and his grandfather before him, out of bridges: they built bridges all over the world, over all kinds of chasms, and had diversified into roads and dams; work which those less snobbish and less realistic and obtuse than Anthony and his friends might have found exciting. However, Anthony and his friends thought bridges dull, and Giles, at this stage a third generation dilettante, tended to let them think what he chose

about bridges, for he wanted to make his mark in other fields. And he wanted Anthony to write him a musical, to win a prize of five thousand dollars in Chicago. They discussed it in Anthony's dark basement flat: it seemed like a fantasy, and so Anthony poured Giles another glass of wine (then six shillings a bottle) he'd even said, "So you fancy yourself as an impresario, do you?" "No more than you fancy yourself as a composer," Giles had sagely replied.

Anthony had agreed to have a go: why not? He had abandoned, through sex, all hope of the good degree that might have been his: why not write a musical instead? Giles had then spoken of money: better draw up a proper contract, he said, just in case. Anthony tried to conceal his surprise. A contract? He did not conceal his surprise effectively: Giles caught it, and, briefly, smiled. Anthony caught Giles' smile and said, truly, for they were beyond truth, "You know, Giles, I'm a lousy song-writer." Even lousy song-writers have a right to a contract, said Giles.

So Anthony wrote his musical, and Giles backed it and took it to Chicago. It did not win \$5,000 dollars, but it was favourably mentioned, and breached the career of Bill Wade, well-known star of cabaret. Bill Wade had a weakness for one of Anthony's not very good songs, and, thanks to the contract and the Performing Rights Society, the song is still sung and even to this day Anthony Keating makes some money every year from it. In its best year, and its worst, it made £300, which was very welcome.

Anthony was flown out to Chicago, to see the festival. He flew with Giles: the rest of the company had gone ahead to rehearse. Side by side they sat, conspirators, and, luckily for now, Giles was host. They discussed what they would do at the end of the year. Giles said: "I think there are some interesting possibilities in commercial television."

So Anthony got a job with the BBC. They were looking for bright undergraduates: in those days, there were more jobs than people.

It was not at first a very well paid job, and in order to

make his mark in other fields. And he wanted Anthony to write him a musical, to win a prize of five thousand dollars in Chicago. They discussed it in Anthony's dark basement flat: it seemed like a fantasy, and so Anthony poured Giles another glass of wine (then six shillings a bottle) he'd even said, "So you fancy yourself as an impresario, do you?" "No more than you fancy yourself as a composer," Giles had sagely replied.

They met from time to time: Giles would call round for a drink and stay all evening, or they would meet by chance in town. Giles brought his wives round one after the other: in return, Anthony would occasionally introduce to Giles the women friends with whom he would defend himself from Babes, his babies and his infidelities. For Babes proved to be the unfaithful type, a maternally spirited woman who could not resist a vulnerable face. Anthony did not like to reflect on how vulnerable he must once have looked, himself. He put up with Babes' boys with a varying grace; Babes was the kind of person it was hard to dislike, impossible to be angry with for long, so desperate was her own need for affection. She knew her children loved her, which was why she wanted more and more children, to multiply and ensure the love: she was never sure of anyone else. Anthony took great pride in his own infidelities, so content to be as kind to her as possible, but the whole life-style proved very expensive: he had to pay for wife and children, for his wife's lovers (who were usually non-self-supporting), and for his own lovers. His own women were usually girls from the BBC: research workers, actresses, editors. They could well have paid more for themselves, but this in the early sixties, was not yet the vogue, and Anthony was obliged to provide dinners, drinks, theatre tickets (though luckily he could often get these free), They discussed what they would do at the end of the year. Giles said: "I think there are some interesting possibilities in commercial television."

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It was not at first a very well paid job, and in order to dead-end a spot as a mortuary or a launderette, was not endlessly interesting: there was a limit to what could be done in it; and he himself

television, although not as

seen to have reached that kind, rather early in life, being quick-witted and hard-working. He did not want to move through the hierarchy to an administrative grade, for administration bored him, and there was nowhere else to go. Friends of his who had entered the parallel trade of journalism reported similar dissatisfaction: they had reached the top too early, some had even managed to earn startlingly high salaries early: and from the age of 30, what remained but a slow or rapid decline? Sighing and drinking and ill-health. Sighs of envy were expressed, occasionally, for those who had ensured professional success with a proper career structure of proper incentives: but it was too late for those. But when the film had finished, he felt curiously uneasy. He walked up and down the corridor for a while, then went back into the studio and played the rushes again. And it struck him, suddenly, with a dazzling flash, how could he not have noticed it before?

The truth was that Len Wincock was a genius, about ten times as intelligent ten times as perceptive, ten times as alive as Austin Jones. Austin Jones, in comparison, was a boring sycophant, a ventriloquist's dummy, mouthing without conviction or intelligence or even any intelligence the obligatory provocative questions: questions which were based on an utterly false premise, the premise that he and the viewers lived in a society which disapproved of the profit motive and which condemned private enterprise. No wonder, thought Anthony, so wonder I have been so bored and so half-hearted, for so long.

Elated, illuminated, he played the reels for a third time. Yes, there it was all was. If you read the film correctly, Len Wincock as hero and Jones as villain, everything fell into place. He could not, of course, edit it that way: that was not his job. But he went home, thinking seriously for the first time for months. For three weeks, he thought hard, about money and incentives and private and public ownership: then he rang up Len Wincock and invited him to lunch. Len, understandably, a little huffy about the subtle way in which Anthony had contrived to make him look a greedy, dishonest monster on the screen, refused.

Anthony waited another week, then rang again. "Look, I've got to talk to you," he said. "I'm thinking of doing a whole series, on the property

boom, serious series, not just a one-off job like that interview with you. I'm sorry about that, I know you didn't like it. But I must do the subject justice. I want you to tell me what I ought to do, who I should talk to. Please."

Len Wincock consented. They had lunch. They talked. To Anthony, it was a revelation. Whole vistas opened before him. In fact, the property business had interested him for some time, ever since he had read a gripping account of it in a book called *The Property Boom*, by Oliver Marlowe, a book which had described the excitement and romance of the business in stirring terms, if not in wholly approving ones, and Anthony had noted in himself, while reading it, a certain envy for those who had the wit to prosper so spectacularly and so speculatively. He had not at the time taken his own envy very seriously, not connecting it in any way with himself, but with Len in front of him—Len, in his thirties, Len, with a new idea a minute and a vision of concrete millions, Len, who had not the slightest suspicion that it might be wicked to make money—he had achieved it, he had borrowed his first thousand from the bank. Len had, like Anthony, lived off his wits, entirely: the difference was that Anthony had never even dreamed of the flights Len Wincock had achieved. It had never occurred to him to ask himself, why not. On the way home, he asked himself, why not. There were some good solid sociological answers to the question, but none so solid that they could not be dissolved in the new sharp solvent spirit of free enterprise.

That night, he rang Giles Peters with a proposition. Hello, Giles, he said, rather drunkenly (from his new plans had gone to his head) I want to start being a gentleman and become a businessman. What a very sensible plan, said Giles Peters. How are you going to set about it?

With your help and your finance, said Anthony Keating. And that was how Anthony Keating left a reasonably safe salaried job with a pension in television, and became a property developer.

This extract is taken from Margaret Drabble's new novel *The Age of Lead*, to be published by Weidenfeld and Nicolson on September 1st at £4.25.

© Margaret Drabble.



## Hugh Leonard: a late start

The whole problem with Ireland is that it's a country full of genius but absolutely no talent", thus Hugh Leonard, arguably Ireland's greatest living playwright and the one true autobiographical *Da* is already having a much claimed and long delayed run at the King's Head in Islington, four years after it was acclaimed. This page at a William Shakespeare Play by Jon Minchin, Leonard is philosophical about London's general recalcitrance where his work is concerned:

My last West End comedy *Patrick Pearse* (Note) had in the same week as *No Please—We're British* we the notices and they got the 'I'd rather have had the

orn in Dublin fifty years ago, had never knew who his father was; brought on by his mother and a stepfather (the "Dad" of the current play) in use where O'Casey had once he started his career as a parochial clerical officer in the Commission there:

Four more recent column entries from people Ireland which entailed him into several pub brawls, than I once accidentally joined three other rent collectors on an island and when came back they were so k they couldn't stand up, don't think they were too to see me go. I'd begun playing for Dublin Theatres and then I got a job in the Irish version of *Theers* on commercial radio; is sponsored by Cadbury's called *The Kermodes* of course and we kept having fun of ways of working plate into a farming

on those humble beings Leonard graduated to drama in Manchester where refused to let him write him to script-editing such classics of the early sixties night *Errant* and *Family* robot:

readiful, they were, but I to commute home to at the weekends when fare was only £7: the play I had in London was an £1, but that was an £1, and the Joyce took 60 per cent of my as the box office only to take in about £70 a there wasn't a lot to live also that gave me a rep as purely an adapter I've had to live down, I still love to adapt: I the Irish Peer, *Ginty* (*The* of *Peter Ginty*) and use done the Irish *Billy* or the Abbey, called *Liam*

I've also got novel on, and the adaptation of *It Belongs To Me* for television was already 32 when and the courage to give



up going to the office and live solely on his writing:

It was a late start, but since then I've never really had a bad year though it's television which pays the best. Irish stage plays have a long tradition of not working in London: ever since all those dramas about banshees and gunmen in trench-coats the English have plotted how to get me out of it. I wouldn't have minded, except that Murphy was the one who got me the job. Inside every Irish city there's a village screaming to get out, and Dublin is no different. Like any city it's getting a bit seedier and more dangerous now: they run mulls down the sides of cars, and the occasional bomb don't much help the tourist trade, but then nor do the plastic hamburger stands in O'Connell Street.

The troubles haven't really hit us hard in the south, except that we are still mad enough not to inform on the Provisionals because deep in our gut we still regard them as 'our own' whatever that may mean. People tell me I should be writing about Belfast now but I can't: the situation is already so complex that any writer would be bound to get it wrong, and what good does that do?

"But I'm able to work much better in Ireland than I ever could in England: I've just finished a screenplay for Burton and Lynn Redgrave from a Joyce Cary novel, and I'm about to do a play based on one of the other characters in *Da*. I seem to write more for the live

but we don't meet much—they're all up in the hills leading Water. Mitty lives as sheep farmers. Besides, a community is a community, a writer who actually speaks to one another: I'd hardly taken over this job at the Abbey before Murphy and Friel were meeting in pubs plotting how to get me out of it. I wouldn't have minded, except that Murphy was the one who got me the job. Inside every Irish city there's a village screaming to get out, and Dublin is no different. Like any city it's getting a bit seedier and more dangerous now: they run mulls down the sides of cars, and the occasional bomb don't much help the tourist trade, but then nor do the plastic hamburger stands in O'Connell Street.

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Sheridan Morley

## Radio Essential freedoms

It is a very well-known state? Writing in fast Radio Times about Hill's *The Second World War* (Radio 4, August 15), Jonathan Raban refers author's delight on discovering that in Norman's time signified a man's right to lose the manner of his life. In that sense, we lost freedom? What have we lost? Have we lost anything? Did we lose a state called freedom? Is it impossible of being lost? I suppose there are some questions raised by Mr programme, the basis of a period of three years in 1976 which he spent alone living in the wood in Worcester. He had an air rifle, a of knives, some cooking and other small items equipment, but that was it. For three months he one, received no news, exclusively off the land, on the dimly remembered knowledge im- to him by a poacher who was a boy.

processes of feeding himself clean, preparing himself with fire and water and a store of tobacco seem to have a good many hours a day—which was probably as well: that absolute idleness which in the of the daily stampede as is as desirable is more than anyone can beyond a day or two. Imperatives and some repeat to be necessary the organism, physical choiced from falling towers. Mr. Hill's day seem to have been so as to allow no time look at the life of the and the few fields now formed his whole. He observed particularly the animals and birds always hugged the nearest to the wood: arrival depended on it, qualitatively, did Hill's since forays into a meadow and even a shrub behind a wall. This suggested to him an with human society lost the edge of the meadow, even fewer to it; and he began to see the parallel of an inner well, a globe of the rose Drakes and Magel- the Beethovens. Shakespeare. How far will he go? Is the rabbits daring? Dof- Helpless? Rash? And an being too? . . .

interesting feature of Mr treat is that it represents many of us think or as "real freedom", not more than relative? the experience serves

## Sumptuous Strauss

### A Night in Venice Coliseum

William Mann

The ENO's latest Johann Strauss operetta dates in production from last Christmas. It is cheerful, sumptuous, full of succulent melodies and sparkling rhythms, set nostalgically against pastiche backdrops of Guardi's idyllic Venice. Murray Dickie's production was, and remains, old-fashioned, too, simple in line and gesture.

With a little more imagination and labour it might have been visibly a ravishing delight and acceptably pretty (the ballet in the second act not even that, mustered funnier and tasteless). The version of the operetta, defiantly unauthentic, gives pleasure and, unlike the original, is dramatically just about intelligible.

Delacqua is roundly and

passionately sung by John Roberts, the all-purpose, ever-winning, Skilling character.

The revival looks

like the work of a colt's team,

promising but not yet fulfilled.

The music is nicely looked after and will give pleasure, like the settings. Fanciers of operetta must expect something stronger in performance for satisfaction, something more original in manner of production. The love duet of Cibotelli and Pappacoda is visually pure D'Oyly Carte, singing very pretty but unwillingly as new.

I possess another and less dangerous conviction that programmes like *The Second Meadow* are what we ought to have more of on Radio 4, and a dawning conviction that little by little we are getting there. The repeats, especially *Bertrand's Adventures* (August 14) conveying an extraordinarily touching impression of human apprehensions, struggling to embrace eternity: like trying to touch the sky with a walking stick. Last Wednesday's *Five Per Cent* was an unusually well-adjusted programme about the Church and homosexuality. It really managed to sound as if its makers (Eric James as presenter; Monica Furlong as producer) regarded it as a topic like any other. It was followed by *In Rehearsal*, a potentially brilliant study by Michael Gill of his own production of *Uncle Vanya*. I say "potentially" because I at least found some difficulty in following the recordings of rehearsals. David Robinson as the innocent policeman whose misadventures provide the thread of what plot there is manages a nice line in goofiness. Several of the girls, notably Roy Clayton, as a swinging wif from Liverpool, Clare Toomey, as the hero's practical sister, hold the stage much more confidently than their male counterparts. But in general the NFT has had many stronger and brighter moments; likewise

actors and audience.

David Wade

theatre now, ever since the BBC draped the boom on *McMammy* when they decided after 20 or so episodes that the Irish suddenly weren't funny any more.

"I'm a lapsed Catholic (aren't we all?) and the local television station said that *McMammy* made fun of Catholicism so they refused to show the series. The Irish are incapable of making literary judgments without incorporating moral judgments as well, and they all think I've had more success than is good for me as a writer and that I've achieved it at the expense of poor little Catholic Ireland which they talk about the way people in the Free War talked about Poor Little Belgium."

"Once, you know, I was staying at an hotel in Cork and the pageboy came up to my room with a telegram and I was in the bath so I shouted 'Slide it under the door' and he said 'I can't: it's on a tray'. Now how could a man leave a country like that? It would be like leaving an imbecile to fend for himself".

"There's an infectious gracelessness about Ireland, but I love it just so long as one keeps an emotional and mental ability to withdraw. Lili Palmer once

said 'I'm not talent you need in life but staying around' and the Irish are very inclined to run off breath halfway up the hill. You have to keep a discipline here, otherwise you fall apart. I work every day from 2 to 6 in the afternoon, then I start again when the pub close at 11.30 and work through to 3.30 in the morning."

"My present wife, I call her that to keep her in her place— we've been married now 22 years and there never was an other) is Belgian by birth but she's become even more Irish than me. I met her because one night I'd insulted everyone in the French Club in Dublin and the next morning I went back to apologize and she was the only one I'd missed out the night before and she wasn't pleased. I look back on my life in mild astonishment that it hasn't been more of a disaster."

"The other great thing about Ireland is that you can get the three English television stations there plus two local ones so it's possible to spend entire weekends catching off *Errol Flynn* films. Last week the local Dublin station had *Street Charity* as their late film starting at eleven, only at midnight someone forgot and pulled all the plugs out, so this week they had to show the rest of the film. Where else in the world would they do that?"

"Still, I like coming to London: at least you meet strangers here, which is a relief, since all my friends are highly obnoxious."

Sheridan Morley

## The generation game

### Family Ties Round House Downstairs

Ned Chailliet

It may be the National Youth Theatre which is producing Peter Terson's *Family Ties* but in its two main plays show more of a sense of emotional anxiety in *Wrong First Time*. Dad kicks off the action by lamenting that women always make the wrong man for their first marriage. He holds up his two eldest daughters as examples of how wrong such marriages can be with Emily married to a man who can do nothing except wear clothes well, and Sandra married to John, Hell's Angel who spends most of his time on a motor cycle.

Against his better judgment, Dad suspects that his youngest daughter, Penny, may make a good first match with the friend of his daughter's, Derek Seaton's production the young actors seem to understand how to play all ends of the generation game.

Mr Terson's two plays may turn out often from the colloquial conversations he manages well, an inflated and arch sort of dissertation but they reveal the range of work of the National Youth Theatre. In the intimate, in fact stifling space of the Round House Downstairs, the work of the young actors

fears about the problems daughters bring to parents.

Fortunately for that play, and the next, Mr Terson sprinkles the dialogue with comic lines and a genial tolerance. *Wrong First Time* also benefits enormously from the performance given by the young actor playing Dad. Tim Spain is a nicely crafted piece of character acting, showing lessons well learned which speak highly for the National Youth Theatre.

But the angst of parenthood again rings out in *Never Right*, Yet Again in which a father reflects at the images his family holds of him. Tired of being seen as a lacklustre provider of shelter and soother of hurts, he wants to make his children know that he is a deeper feeling, sexual, motivator and a working life in which the children have no part.

The actors again give confident performances, particularly Paul Elvaston as the father and Lynn Harrell as a visiting friend of his daughter's. In Derek Seaton's production the young actors seem to understand how to play all ends of the generation game.

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Today 27 AUGUST 1977 **CLEVELAND QUARTET** **BEETHOVEN QUARTET** **QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL**

Sunday 28 AUGUST 1977 **CHRISTOPHER ESCHENBACH** **LYNN HARRELL** **JOHN MCKEE** **EDWARD RAVACHE** **JOHN PASCOS** **ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL** **QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL**

Tuesday 29 AUGUST 1977 **THE KING'S SINGERS** **ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL** **QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL**

Wednesday 30 AUGUST 1977 **ACADEMY AND CHORUS** **ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL** **QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL**

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July 1977

## Good Food Pass the haggis

As a country—especially as a tourist—Scotland has a great deal of its own personality. Ancestral tartans, Edinburgh granite, loch and river all convey to the visitor from uprooted London fly-by-night California an unmistakable message: the more yesterday, today and tomorrow Politics and economics have recently upset this picture, for those who notice such things, but tourism does not end either, and the visitor to contemporary Scotland who expects to eat what brochure or last year's debrief promises may be in for a disappointment. Many exchanges would be edifying, others less so. The elaborate menus that turn out like the meals of some managers: all suit man. And the trend of things to come is perhaps best represented by Culloden House in Inverness, where good king has to fight a battle in the perceived need to be haggis with whisky sauce all executives paying £40 a for their suite.

It is a pity that the Edinburgh Festival (August 21-26) does not coincide with the periods at which eastern countryside is at its best: in June when broom sets off the vivid fields, and the thick pine is, or in October when hawthorn assumes colours even Vermont cannot surpass. In high summer, too, the eminence a penitential road, deviations are possible, there are a few places worth the attention of ordinary British tourists: wants to feel neither that fallen into a holiday camp mistake, nor that bad luck has landed him in a crass, ranch-style, d-d for Dallas, Texas.

At the top of the list are a few hotels of the kind Scots do so well. But do they have both been listed for several years and the interest with places lies in seeing from year how much they h back into the business, how they shave off om, whether in staff or instance, there is Tullie as Ballater. The distance en Braemar and Ballater far as the Rollins runs, with its in the peninsula Inverurie. But Ballater makes a more cool, and perhaps first things first. At Braemar, a well-established hotel's of a lunch was expressed by a French and served by a with bad English—might not have mattered food had been any im- ments. But it was not, un- our idea of lunch on a day is oxtail soup, over lamb with instant and pink shop for mer- Ar Ballater for a £3.50 iner. Neil Bannister and MacDonald set before a visitor good granary a refreshing chilled soup with trimmings, roast pork with its own crisp crackling, and a gooseberry sauce, home-made black- ice with merengues, cheese if you wanted it, strong coffee. Nor would guess from the present and atmosphere of baronial folly, with y chosen old furniture, antique housekeeping, unless all round, and landscape work being in the garden, that nine ago the owners started nothing but a bankrupting and their own ener-

the Clifton Hotel in an old-fashioned Edwardian resort where in orange smocks go break of day to net under a petro-blue tinner was £4.50, but that an hors d'oeuvre with 20 items, and more elsewhere too, in some more restricted choice be a better idea. Noting reaches the standard, the marinated fish, soups both thick and forable game and venison, mousse and cream-filled pastries, re too there is a per- "I was addressed from the very begin- my stay," reports one and Gordon Macintyre about his wines, though itself could be more tively laid out.

jer, younger, hotel of calibre on the east side land is Dunain Park at ss. Here, prices are and there is a less com- of criticism some- made: "I wish there little less fuss. A meal it have to be turned drama production," though, like to see is and sweet-william in rooms, and the care a Bulger will put into a selection of a simple salad or a tray of cof- der, 1977.

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## The Times Special Reports

A subject matter on all the subjects that matter

They also now the well-butchered, delicious lamb, and the delicious home-made ice—some of them had served ginger chopped up in it, with a bowl of thick lumpy cream to pour over".

South of Edinburgh—and in deed a useful first or last stop in Scotland—is Johnstoneburn House at Humble. In the restaurant, efficiently run by a manager who is a widow, Bemans would have been pleased to employ tired travellers to employ an excellent prawn cocktail, delectably grilled sole, and respectable roast turkey with properly cooked garden vegetables.

Als, hotels of this kind are well beyond the resources of most families, especially if children and the names and whereabouts of a few more modest new eating places may be useful.

There is, for instance, the Wood's Spoon at Kingussie, where choice needs to be careful (leave the sweets to the children), but where fresh salmon with lemon cream sauce or jugged hare or venison casserole will cost about £3 including vegetables, and will have been sincerely cooked, if amateurishly presented. (The Russells run the place as an adjunct to their craft shop.) Inverness House at Kinbrace (off the A9 at the turn marked Feshiebridge) is a hotel which does enterprise bar lunches as well as dinners, and might improve when Mrs Hobkirk develops enough confidence in her own cooking to furnish salad cream from her kitchen.

At Aviemore a couple of skiers, Fraser and Bridget Clyde, have opened a little restaurant called Bumbles, where chicken liver pâté, fondue bourguignonne and Black Forest gateau are called "a welcome alternative to the highly priced frozen food dispensed by the hotel chains".

And right at the bottom of the market—indeed, far enough down to have the most impoverished tourist rubbing eyes at the prices—is the Dairy at Inverurie. It is not new—indeed, when it was visited there was a tableful of pensioners in braces who may have been coming every week for 20 years—and the entrance is through the Mace supermarket. But if you are content with Scots-style lentil soup and a rusk, stew with green cabbage, or mince with Aberdeenshire stovies, home-made rice pudding or baked custard, and a cup of tea or a glass of milk, all for about 75p, the Dairy may be your family's good fairy.

Details: Tullie Lodge, Ballater, Gram- pion. On A93 1 miles east of Ballater. Tel: Ballater 406. Closed January-March. Must book. Meals 1. 7.30-9.00. Table d'hôte only; lunch £3.20, dinner £3.80. Bed and breakfast £11.50; full board £112 per week.

Clifton Hotel, Viewfield Street, Nairn, Highland. Tel: Nairn 53119. Closed December, January, lunch (except bar). Must book dinner. Meals 12.00-1.30.

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Northgate Hotel, Inverurie, In- verurie. Tel: Inverurie 28. Closed December 1-February 28. Must book dinner. Meals 12.30-1.30 (snacks), 7.30-9.00. Table d'hôte dinner £5. Bed and breakfast £3.50-£10.50.

Johnstoneburn House, Humble, Lothian. A617 turning off A68. Tel: Humble 632. Closed December 1-February 28. Must book dinner. Meals 12.30-2.30, 7.30-9.00.

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## Athletes' hair is only dramatic casualty on night of wet heats

Cliff Temple, Athletics Correspondent  
Amid the depressing and tragic rains, the competitors in the men's and women's championships at Crystal Palace last night left with dramatic headlines in the long series of sports. John Mansfield, who had been pre-empted by a 200 metres with the minimum of effort, and with only a smattering of the injury problems that had dogged her springing in the both this season and in the

he was her 200 metres heat 23.98sec, won Donna Hartley, going down from her normal 400 metres, and 200 metres and 200 metres with the minimum of effort, and with only a smattering of the injury problems that had dogged her springing in the both this season and in the

she will breathe a sigh of relief, and another busy international period approaching. Mary Stewart was the fastest of qualifiers for today's final of 13.01, and 200 metres, and is obviously well on the road to recovery after recent virus infection. She did 1 of the work in the race, as which brings her up against the others who will be competing in the European Cup final this week. Jane Cullen (500 metres), Hilary Hollings (0 metres), and Ann Ford (0 metres), have all set their standards for the championships, and there should be close final today.

Sutherland, of Edinburgh Southern Harriers, set herself as a clear favourite for the 400 metres due to her recent success in the Europeans. Mrs Sutherland, who is recovering from the European Cup, won her heat in 53.66sec, one-tenth of a second faster than the women's champion, Christine Warden, of Helsinki, where she finished

Warden is not defending in this event, concentrating on the 400 metres final, which she was a heat winner last night. But Mrs Sutherland had the most favourable conditions today, as she can under the United Kingdom record of 57.65sec.

### Results from Crystal Palace

**METRES** Qualifiers for semi-final: 1-11. B. Shattock, 1-12. S. Hollings, 1-13. D. Foster, 1-14. J. Hartley, 1-15. J. Cullen, 1-16. J. Ford, 1-17. J. Mansfield, 1-18. M. Stewart, 1-19. S. Ford, 1-20. J. W. Brown, 1-21. J. W. Brown, 1-22. J. W. Brown, 1-23. J. W. Brown, 1-24. J. W. Brown, 1-25. J. W. Brown, 1-26. J. W. Brown, 1-27. J. W. Brown, 1-28. J. W. Brown, 1-29. J. W. Brown, 1-30. J. W. Brown, 1-31. J. W. Brown, 1-32. J. W. Brown, 1-33. J. W. Brown, 1-34. J. W. Brown, 1-35. J. W. Brown, 1-36. J. W. Brown, 1-37. J. W. Brown, 1-38. J. W. Brown, 1-39. J. W. Brown, 1-40. J. W. Brown, 1-41. J. W. Brown, 1-42. J. W. Brown, 1-43. J. W. Brown, 1-44. J. W. Brown, 1-45. J. W. Brown, 1-46. J. W. Brown, 1-47. J. W. Brown, 1-48. J. W. Brown, 1-49. J. W. Brown, 1-50. J. W. Brown, 1-51. J. W. Brown, 1-52. J. W. Brown, 1-53. J. W. Brown, 1-54. J. W. Brown, 1-55. J. W. Brown, 1-56. J. W. Brown, 1-57. J. W. Brown, 1-58. J. W. Brown, 1-59. J. W. Brown, 1-60. J. W. Brown, 1-61. J. W. Brown, 1-62. 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To Margaret Thatcher, Michael Foot, and David Steel appeals to history are becoming more popular



Recalling powerful figures from the past: from the left—Adam Smith, Gladstone, Asquith and Cromwell.

Appeals to history seem to be becoming more popular with politicians. Mrs Thatcher's recent Iain MacLeod Memorial lecture did not just include the invitation to reread the works of Adam Smith which so many *Times* readers have apparently taken up. It also paid tribute to the ideas of Lord Acton, Archbishop Temple and the Victorians in general. Michael Foot cited the Chartist Movement as a model of how to organize a peaceful social change in a recent speech in Cornwall. David Steel spent much of this summer, with the Liberals, in the throes of their centenary celebrations, trying to evoke the shade of Mr Gladstone and even to prove that the Grand Old Man would have given his blessing to the Lib-Lab pact.

It is interesting to see which periods the different party leaders regard as constituting a golden age. The present Tory leadership have no hesitation in finding theirs in the nineteenth century. Mrs Thatcher's Iain MacLeod lecture was a paean of praise to the whole Victorian achievement, which she feels has been denigrated by socialist propagandists. She said: "It was an age of constant and constructive endeavour in which the desire to improve the lot

## Would the Grand Old Man have blessed the Lib-Lab pact?

of the ordinary person was a powerful factor. We who are largely living off the Victorians' moral and physical capital can hardly afford to denigrate

the free market philosophy and hostility to state action that characterized the present Tory leadership undoubtedly owes a lot to Victorian ideas. It is noticeable that they are considerably more historically minded than Mr Heath and those Conservatives associated with him, who rarely appeal to the past in their speeches

The nineteenth century is also the Liberals' happiest hunting ground. Admittedly they went back to the seventeenth century when they had the party's copy of Milton's *Areopagitica* placed on the High Altar during their centenary service in Westminster Abbey. The service itself revolved round Gladstone, however, with Jeremy Thorpe solemnly intoning the

distinguished historians to Brussels. Roy Jenkins and David Marquand were both at home in the world of early twentieth-century politics. But there are two distinguished amateur historians in the present Cabinet, Michael Foot and Anthony Wedgwood Benn. As with the Tories, it is the most ideologically and "extreme" socialists who are the most historically minded.

For Labour politicians there is no doubt that the golden age lies in that brief period in the middle of the seventeenth century when England was a republic and when Levellers, Diggers and Ranters were able to set up their experimental democratic and communistic utopias. Michael Foot's recent excursion into the nineteenth century was something of a departure for him. He is normally happiest in the

world of the Roundheads. As aardent member of the Cromwell Society, he quoted the Lord Protector's foreign policy in support of his opposition to Britain's membership of the EEC.

The most historically minded of all contemporary politicians is almost certainly Anthony Wedgwood Benn. Like Michael Foot, he is essentially a seventeenth-century figure, although he is also very conscious of his Nonconformist radical inheritance from his father and of the Christian Socialist tradition which he has come to espouse. His speech last summer on the Levellers in Burford Parish Church is still remembered as a classic performance by Cromwellian historians.

Mr Benn's most interesting historical idea is his belief that Britain has now reached a stage in its economic and social development comparable to that reached in 1832 and 1867 in its political development. Just as the vote came naturally then, so he believes industrial democracy and genuine mass participation in economic decision-making is the natural development in the 1970s. Only history will prove if he is right.

Ian Bradley

George Hutchinson

## Talking defence and détente in a cold climate

Membership of Nato remains our strongest military safeguard. There is no alternative to it, no substitute

At Nato's inception, Frank Roberts was Ernest Bevin's principal private secretary. He was subsequently his Ambassador in Moscow and elsewhere. Sir Frank, now retired from the Foreign Service, is today the president of the British Atlantic Committee, a voluntary body with counterparts in each of the member-states of the alliance, of which there are 15. Together, they constitute the Atlantic Treaty Association, whose object is to increase public knowledge of the alliance and generate support for its purposes.

Next week the association is to hold its annual assembly—in what might be called the most "Atlantic" of all Atlantic capitals, Reykjavik, Iceland is a rarity within the alliance in that it possesses no armed forces at all, only a fishery protection squadron.

It is, moreover, a country with quite a strong communist party, although the present government may be termed right of centre.

The theme for Reykjavik is "How to meet the growing

threat". To man on only a

few, the conference will be addressed by Mr Joseph Luns, chairman of the North Atlantic Council and secretary-general of Nato. General Zeiner Gunderson, chairman of the military committee, and Admiral Kidd, Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic. In short, this will be a high-powered affair, occurring at a time of anxiety for the alliance, not to say danger.

Sir Frank Roberts will head the British delegation of a dozen or so among them the honorary treasurer of his committee, Mr Sidney Horniblow, and Mr Hugh Manning, the retiring director. When I saw

him the other day, Sir Frank had this to say:

"The problems are nearly 30 years after Nato was set up are really twofold. The first concern East-West relations, and the second concerns relationships within the alliance. On the first, it was easy to explain the need for a defence alliance in the days of Stalin and the Cold War. It is more difficult when you have to combine defence and détente."

"Thank God we are talking to the Russians, on many things—but this can deflect attention from the quite new development in Soviet arms build-up. We are used to their being numerically superior in

terms of men and weapons in Central Europe, but we have not perhaps woken up to the fact that they could be over-taking us qualitatively in nuclear weapons, in the air and in the sea."

"On the second point, there

were serious stresses between the American and European sides of the alliance in the early seventies, but fortu-

nately these are no longer a major problem. But there are always tricky issues—for example the position of France, the Greek-Turkish crisis, Eurocom-

munism and—happily new dis-

posed of—the 'cod war' with Iceland."

As Sir Frank expresses it:

"The main business of the meeting is to take stock of the state of the alliance and to be informed, and then to see what the voluntary associations in each country can best do to maintain the strength of the alliance."

"There could be few better times, and they deserve every support."

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## The humour of Good Queen Bess did not suit the tailors

While a compiler's reference books should, in the case of the ordinary daily crossword, serve merely to supply supporting authority for what he or she already knows, I delight in sifting through some of their highways and byways and extending my rag-bag collection of fascinating trivia. For instance, years ago I read from *Brewer's Dictionary of Phrase and Fable* that "No tailors make a seam which is a gross slur on Savile Row, I am sure, but an enterprising one, and supported by the nursery rhyme 'Four and twenty tailors went to kill a snail' (they were apparently put to rout when the snail put out her horns). However, it was not until comparatively recently that, while checking a reference to Good Queen Bess being turned out of the Realm in her petticoat, I came across her greeting to a delegation of 18 tailors, quoted from Chamberlin's *Sayings of Queen Elizabeth* as "Good morning, gentlemen both", which shows that the Good Queen had an excellent sense of humour and might well have made a good crossword-compiling team with Francis Bacon (famed for his *Horofic Bacon* ... etc 27-letter anagram).

Should I rely on an incorrect reference, crossword solvers will be quick to enlighten me. One anonymous puzzler sent a kindly "tut-tut" after I had used "the ho! pollo!" in a clue. Our gentle readers will need no reminding that "ho! pollo!" is ancient Greek for "the many" so that the "the" in "the ho! pollo!" is superfluous, or, as one-up-men in the Wardenship game would no doubt prefer to call it, downright pleonastic: nevertheless Dryden used "the ho! pollo!", and so did Gilbert in *Tolstoy*. No doubt the advice given in *Fowler's*

Modern English Usage is best: if one omits "the", one will be accused of pedantry; if one uses "the", one will be jumped on by the purists; so it is wiser to avoid the expression (at least in "Hoi Chronos") altogether.

My reference books do not tell me everything I should like to know. There is, for instance, the custom handed down from generation to generation of apotropaizing certain fury animals first thing in the morning, for luck. I wondered whether this was a universal custom in these islands or whether the creatures apotropaized were different in different parts of the country, such as "Weasels" in Wesssex, "Badgers" in Bedfordshire and "Squirrels" in Suffolk. On the first of May nearly a hundred crossword addicts from Cheshire and the adjoining counties were assembled in Chester to compete in a cross-word regional final, so I took the opportunity of asking them what was the magic word which they had said, or should have said, first thing that morning (could it, I asked myself, be "Cats")? with no dissentient voices they replied "Rabbits" except for a few (I hope they were not racists) who said "White Rabbits". So perhaps the "Rabbits" custom is nationwide. One wonders how it originated—some remnant of an old fertility invocation, perhaps?

Reference books, however, are not for the competitors in the annual Curry Sack/Times National Crossword Championship who are required to solve crosswords unaided. Of more than 900 competitors who have done battle with commendable fortitude in this year's seven regional finals, 18 have qualified to meet the 1976 champion,

Edmund Akenhead  
Crossword Editor

## The battle to save the Jewish art which has survived the ravages of persecution

The first international conference to be dedicated entirely to Jewish art will take place on August 23, 24 and 25 at St Edmund Hall, Oxford, under the aegis of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies.

Learned debates about the definition of "Jewish art"—or indeed the possibility of its existence in the light of the iconoclastic Second Commandment—have been increasing, repetitively, since the late nineteenth century. Yet that was also the period during which the field was largely discovered and made known to a wide public.

A private collection of Jewish ceremonial art was shown at the 1878 international exhibition in Paris, and the exhibits (today part of the Musée Cluny) were shown again, together with rich material from British collections, in the impressive Anglo-Jewish Historical Exhibition of 1897 at the Royal Albert Hall.

America had its first exhibition of Jewish ceremonial art in 1892, when a private collection (subsequently lent to the

United States National Museum in Washington and later to become the nucleus of the Jewish museum of New York) was exhibited in Chicago. In 1898 the famous *haggadah* of Sarajevo, a medieval Illuminated Hebrew manuscript from Spain, was published by the Viennese art historian, Julius von Schlosser, working with the Hebrew scholars, David Heinrich Müller and David Kaufmann, and the existence of the hitherto unknown art of medieval Hebrew book illumination was revealed to the world.

Societies for the preservation and study of Jewish monuments and works of art were founded in Vienna (1897) and Frankfurt am Main (1900), and a steady flow of learned publications,

reports and inventories followed.

By the First World War public collections of Jewish ceremonial art had been formed in Danzig (Gdansk), Jerusalem, Prague, Warsaw and elsewhere, and the number of Jewish museums has been increasing ever since. The private collecting of *judiaca* became a fashion and Jewish ceremonial art an established category in the antique markets as well as the auction houses.

Sharp dealers and inventive forgers were quick to capitalize on the new enthusiasm. It is perhaps not entirely accidental that the new interest in this aspect of the Jewish heritage coincided with the spread of secularization in Jewish society as well as with the emergence of the Jewish national movement (the first Zionist congress assembled in 1897). The craving for cultural roots, symbols and a national artistic tradition has clearly inspired discoveries and research in this new field.

The Second World War resulted in the disappearance of millions of Jewish ceremonial objects. Poland was robbed of most of its Jewish treasures. Throughout Germany precious metals were collected from Jewish homes and melted down. The main load of Jewish ceremonial silver, which the Americans found at Wiesbaden towards the end of the war was only a fraction of what had actually been destroyed.

Other large collections of Jewish ceremonial art, more varied than that of Prague, are owned by the Jewish museums of New York, Jerusalem, London and Los Angeles.

These comprise, with some

notable exceptions, material

dating mainly from the seven-

teenth to nineteenth centuries

and include decorative artefacts for synagogue ritual throughout the Jewish year as well as the

domestic and personal ceremonial objects of the individual Jewish families.

The present situation in Jewish museums is a sorry one. They are adequately funded and under staffed. They are steadily called upon to

concern themselves with

the unaffiliated, the un-

devoted, the un-

interested, the

and the un-

interested.

Medieval Illuminated manuscripts are stored in the Biblio-

thèque Nationale, the British Library, the Bodleian, and the National Library and the Israel

museum in Jerusalem.

Trained museum staff

badly needed everywh-

ere apart from the

professional institutions

offer a course in Jewi-

sh or Jewish art. The

Centre for Postgraduate Studies could play a r-

ole in the field. Yet

at least it was an in-

stitutional experience, but

a spiritual one.

Edward Mor

Standards  
To be sure I would lunch at the Hiders,  
and of course I would drink Stalin's tea.  
and the thought of an evening with Milton  
quite frightens the life out of me.

## Is the passion play now too big for its roots?

Once upon a time there was a mountain village in Bavaria. Like many of its neighbours it had a traditional passion play. But because of its picturesqueness—origin—a vow made in the throes of the Black Death in 1633—and because of the dedication with which the villagers approached their 10-yearly performance, this passion play gained a unique and, in time, an international reputation. By 1960 there were 520,000 spectators, spread over 93 performances, and nearly a million applicants for seats had to be turned away. The Oberammergau passion play had become very big business.

The essence of its appeal is clearly that the villagers do it themselves, and in their own way. All the actors are amateurs, and either natives, or long-term residents of the village; the casting committee is elected by the villagers. But the village, perhaps inevitably, has found itself catering more and more for outside requirements.

Need for a fresh approach

Perhaps the passion play's greatest misfortune was to arouse the enthusiasm of Adolf Hitler, who pronounced it "a symbol of reconciliation and peace". But inevitably it also attracted the attention of those who after the war were anxious to purge German Christianity of any hint of antisemitism.

At the same time there were more general criticisms of a stylistic or aesthetic nature: the nineteenth-century prose text by Albrecht Dürer, used virtually without alteration from 1860 to 1970, was pronounced dull and uninspiring by modern critics. The play was too long (it lasted all day, from 9.15 am to 6 pm with a two-hour lunch break). The chorus and tableau vivants of Old Testament scenes which punctuated it were felt to break the continuity and tension of the drama. The production generally was said to be in need of a fresh approach.

By 1960 the mayor of Oberammergau was sufficiently concerned to ask a panel of outside experts for advice. In 1962 they came up with the suggestion that Oberammergau should go back to an earlier text in rhyming couplets, written in 1759 by Father Ferdinand Rosner, a monk at the monastery of Ettal near by.

As Sir Frank expresses it: "The main business of the meeting is to take stock of the state of the alliance and to be informed, and then to see what the voluntary associations in each country can best do to maintain the strength of the alliance." Nor is it a bad result for the Tories, who could scarcely have hoped to maintain their recent run of by-election successes in this particular constituency. At 8.2 per cent the swing to the Conservatives was nevertheless lower than might have been expected.

Taken with other and more general evidence this suggests that the Government's electoral prospects may be improving a little, or that the decline in Labour's fortunes has at least been checked. This is certainly my own impression, and not only on account of Ladywood. There is no need for alarm in the Conservative Party: but there may be cause for just a tremor of anxiety.

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I wondered if Rabbi Taub was not protestin

up. Very little is ma

in the Jewishness of C

accusation in this text. W

emphasized in their ha

and the fact that they a

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a human shape as an en

Lucifer. The trouble is

that the play's rep

is got too big for the

play's sake. Clearly t

member of visitors it a

and the village (it is

now a small town) has

Is the  
on play  
too big  
its roots



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## NO TRIUMPH FOR EXTREMISM

is a sign of how used we have grown to the volatility of by-elections that it should appear extraordinary to hear of an *ordinary* one. *Ladywood* is a constituency where quirks seemed possible for a number of reasons. In the event, only quirky aspect was the *use* of the Liberals (and that still on its way to becoming *ordinary* thing too). *Ladywood* is an unusual constituency, and the campaign was conducted in an unusual political sphere. Because of its large immigrant population, race had been an issue there without the disturbances in *Isleham* last week. They made certain that it would become main public topic of the campaign in its last stages. It was certain that it was the preoccupation of the election in the privacy of the polling-booths.

After the triumphs of *Ashfield* and *Walsall North*, *Ladywood's* 1 swing may seem a distinctly modest success for Conservatives. The Government's incomes policy fails in the promises of more economic outlook remains, and yet the voters hardly care in their allegiances. But *Ladywood* is a natural ground for right-wing extremism, which attracts support at least as much from the left as from the moderate right. With the national publicity as well, it might have made great advances.

## TEST FOR MR CARTER

first blemish has now come on the shining armour of rectitude which President Carter hoped would clothe the Administration. It is in the shape of a question but it remains stubbornly aint to cleaning. The affair of Bert Lance, the Director of Management and it, will not go away. On the day the Comptroller of the Treasury reported that its investigations had turned up nothing illegal in his conduct, President Carter expressed confidence and support on behalf of his old but there will be further hearings next month by the Committee on Government Affairs, and even at this a great deal of what has been made uncomfortable is still to come. As the report "a recurring pattern of bank relationships and borrowing raises unanswerable questions as to what is acceptable banking practice" Mr Lance's array of loans and debts must cause eyebrows. His personal, professional and political affairs seem mingled on very intimate

makers of any colour. Other seats contain areas of urban decay quite as bad, of course, but there cannot be many where so few voters live in other, more hopeful, conditions. If such a constituency lost faith in the Labour Party, it would not turn to the Tories.

Equally, the Liberals never had a chance of getting far. They won the seat once in 1969, but then its boundaries were very different. Their local party was suffering from internal divisions, but that may have only marginally influenced a disaster which the present character of the seat (and a national record of twelve lost deposits in the last sixteen by-elections) probably made inevitable. Even if Saffron Walden is given all possible weight, the pact with Labour continues to have a catastrophic effect on the party in terms of lost morale as much as lost votes.

It is debatable whether their inability to stay in third place is more the Liberals' failure or the National Front's success. The Liberals were a well-established local force: the National Front did not even contest the seat at the last general election, when the same Liberal candidate gained 3,000 votes. But a place like *Ladywood* is natural ground for right-wing extremism, which attracts support at least as much from the left as from the moderate right. With the national publicity as well, it might have made great advances.

Beating the Liberals can hardly be said to be a great advance, if one is able to do so merely by toppling one-twentieth of a low turnout. In spite of the uncomfortably large number of by-elections and local elections recently in which the Liberals have been beaten into fourth place, support for the National Front remains patchy and sluggish.

The candidates on the left whose main theme was their opposition to the National Front, or who made their appeal to a particular ethnic group, fared even worse. The same conditions that might have made voters ready to listen to the Front might have encouraged partisanship of other kinds among an immigrant community whose familiarity with British political affairs is relatively small. Whatever the quality of the candidates concerned (it was variable), such a tendency would have raised a danger of the growth of factional alignments. But most of the coloured citizens of *Ladywood*, like the white ones, found that either the Labour or the Conservative candidate represented their own hopes and fears sufficiently well—or if not, indicated by heavy abstentions that no one else standing did so any better. An election which might have added strength to the forces of extremism has instead reaffirmed the persistent appeal of moderation and stability in our political life.

served under him when he was Governor of Georgia. He is no stranger or newcomer about whom Mr Carter could claim to have been misinformed or ill-informed. He is an associate of many years.

A president who sets very high standards must expect to be judged by them. He must also expect that a lot of people will be burrowing away with great eagerness in the hope of being able to show that he is not living up to them. Washington since Watergate is a place of investigative zeal, and Mr Carter's Administration will have to be of almost superhuman perfection to survive this sort of scrutiny and emerge wholly unscathed. Perhaps Americans have now been led to expect too much in the way of purity from their politicians, but they have been through a bruising experience of being granted far too little. Two weeks after taking office Mr Carter promised that he would reform the Government to make it "as open and honest as it can be". He said that the public service should reflect the "very highest" standards of ability and conduct. Mr Lance's affairs are putting these words to the test. The affair of Mr Lance is now putting these words to the test.

If these allegations are substantiated they will be damaging. They will bring back into the vocabulary of Washington the dreaded words "cover up" which Mr Carter had hoped to banish. The damage will be greater: the greater because Mr Lance, who rose from bank clerk to bank president in twelve years, is an old personal friend and political supporter of Mr Carter, and

## STRALIA'S LARGER GRUNWICK

Australian Government's law to prohibit strikes by permanent employees appears safe a general election in October, if only because such a law is so fundamental it requires a verdict from the federal electorate. The date of the election is the 26th of August, and the strike, which has disrupted communications in the metropolitan sector. The strike is now a statutory strike, but it retains the same right to deliver the strike which exposes workers to retribution and hold the strike to ransom, as on a scale in the Grunwick strike in London. In Sydney, Britain, the public is finding ways to circumvent this strike monopoly.

far from clear, however, he new legislation will be. The Government plans to issue individual notices with dismissal notices, so if they do not rebel their union, and weekly dismissals, it is not clear the state's mails will be closed; and the possibility postal services will be widely paralysed by strike strikes in other states. This is the central of a quasi-socialist how are workers to be led when they resist the self? Basically it resolves us into the old communists who rules the elected

government or the union leadership? The problem is not unfamiliar in Britain, and is likewise unresolved here. Accordingly the Australian trial of strength is of relevance to Britain.

Mr Fraser, the Federal Prime Minister, is in a position analogous to that of Mr Heath in 1974. There is no doubt that much of the Australian public is weary and resentful of the ceaseless spate of strikes which disrupt public services and private business, strikes which are partly caused by the disruptive effects of inflation—running at only 10 or 12 per cent—and partly by the doctrinaire leftist policies of the union leadership, influenced by Mr Robert Hawke.

To a great extent, the fight now is between Mr Fraser and Mr Hawke, rather than between Mr Fraser and Mr Whitlam. It looks as though Mr Fraser is now preparing to go to the country, and that Mr Hawke is nothing but loath. The first signs of this early appeal to the electorate were seen in the change in the governor-general's speech, which removed from the political arena Sir John Kerr, whose removal of Mr Whitlam in 1975 would have otherwise been an election issue. But the failure of the Federal government to get through a constitutional referendum to arrange for the House of Representatives and Senate elections to be held simultaneously may have played a part in Mr Fraser's thinking.

ade with EEC  
Lord Kellor and Professor Neil

Mayne (July 22) is wrong to say that the Eurostat figures for United Kingdom trade with the EEC are of course adjusted to be comparable throughout.

The Eurostat figures are therefore discontinuous in a way which causes an apparent but spurious step improvement in Britain's trade with the EEC. The effect is large: in 1974 exports as a percentage of imports are 10 per cent higher in the Eurostat figures than in the official United Kingdom trade statistics, whereas the two series agree for 1972 and 1973.

Dr Mayne would do everyone a service if he would persuade his colleagues in Brussels to give a clear indication in their statistical publications that there is this break in the series for the United Kingdom. As recent press reports have shown, high ranking officials of the Commission as well as others have been

misled by their figures as they are presented now.

Yours faithfully,  
NICHOLAS KALDOR,  
R. R. NEILD,  
Faculty of Economics and Politics,  
Sidgwick Avenue,  
Cambridge.

August 9.

Backward glance

From Lieut-Commander Michael Baillie-Grohman

Sir, The curious names of Yam, Yroc, Eb and Deamad are applied to four hills in Lemnos Island.

The Naval surveyors who named them cannot be said not to have been backward when they consigned their CO, whose name was Corry, to the neither regions.

Yours, etc.,  
M. A. BAILLIE-GROHMAN,  
5 Werherby Gardens, SW3.

August 17.

## Elected parliament for Europe

From Mr Basil Z. de Ferranti

Sir, Lord Southby (August 18), paraphrasing some enigmatic metaphors of Sir Winston Churchill's on his way to Strasbourg in 1949, believes "that the fire of Europe will go out" when the European parliament is directly elected. He said National Parliaments would take no notice of, let alone take orders from, such a body.

The other half of the mixed metaphor could illustrate a different view. Churchill said we are going to Strasbourg "not to make a machine but to grow a living plant".

Thanks to the geographical and political facts of life and to the bureaucracy, which though no larger than the Scotch Office does a remarkable job, "the living plant" has twenty years of growth and would now benefit from some democratic sunlight instead of national partisanship.

We have no tariff in Europe (extended now to the EFTA and largely to the Latin American region). We are about halfway through the fundamental task of removing non-tariff barriers to trade. We have the CAP, with parts admirably, but not cancer. We have the Social Fund, Regional Fund, European Investors Fund and a European basis of credit for loans. Most of all we have a common stand in international negotiations. For the future we need to make more progress towards monetary union by controlling inflation and reducing imbalances of trade, expanding the bases that can be more efficiently carried out at European level. We need to remove remaining barriers to trade, especially in the field of government purchasing for both civil and defence requirements. We need strength and vitality to absorb new members in the interests of the free world.

A direct election will help the voter to understand the benefits that their European member can fight for. The National Parliament will take notice of their views on these subjects because it is in their interests to do so. They will not be "talking orders", they will be joining in a consensus.

Yours faithfully,

BASIL Z. DE FERRANTI,  
Chairman, Economic and Social  
Committee of the European  
Community,  
2 Rue Ravenstein,  
Brussels.

Elvis Presley

From Mr Tim Rice

Sir, Your leading article of August 18 is correct when it states that Elvis Presley was a singer of great social significance and I am glad that President Carter has also paid official tribute to this extraordinary entertainer.

However, I take strong exception to your statements in the same

leader that Presley was an indifferent singer, performing for the most part mediocre songs, and was a totally uninteresting person. This is simply not true and I would be interested to know which popular singers you consider to be superior to Presley in these categories. Or are you unwilling to admit that any popular singers have any merit whatsoever?

Yours faithfully,

TIM RICE,  
118 Wardour Street, W1.

August 18.

Mr Fraser certainly needs an issue to divert attention from his Government's economic record. He took office when the economy was depressed and Mr Whitlam's management was widely criticized as ineffective if not actually flawed by irregularities, to use no stronger term. But though Mr Fraser tried to rescue the economy by financial orthodoxy, inflation has continued. Unemployment approaches half a million, and the world depression leaves Australia in the doldrums. Asian competition has put thousands of Australian industrial workers out of a job, but Australia fears to offend its industrial neighbours by fiercer trade barriers.

Recently complaints have been made that British migrants have imported militant and ideological trade unionism into Australia—the "English disease". In fact, Australia has taken over British (as compared with American or German) trade union organization and attitudes. There is no doubt that the Australian unions have carried their determination to be something between a state within a state and a parallel government co-equal with elected parliaments considerably further than in Britain. The crunch comes, inevitably, in the public sector. Mr Fraser's fate in both provoking a showdown, and in taking up a standing challenge to fight, will be watched with interest in Britain.

From Mr R. G. Short  
Sir, Your leading article of August 18 implies that Elvis Presley's large popularity was somehow spite of, rather than because of, his music. This is untrue and unfair. People did not buy Elvis Presley's records in order to annoy their parents; they bought them because they derived enormous pleasure from listening to Elvis Presley's magnificent and unique artistic performances.

Yours faithfully,

R. G. SHORT,  
79 Hamlet Gardens, W6.

From Mrs Joel Burstfield

Sir, In 1956, the year when Elvis Presley's extraordinary talent burst upon the world, I started to teach in a large mixed comprehensive school in north-west London. I shall never forget the elderly senior mistress coming into the staff room one morning and saying sternly, "I must speak to a boy called Elvis Presley because he has carved his name on every desk in the school".

Yours, etc.,

BETTY HURSTFIELD,  
7 Glenila Road, Hampstead, NW3.

August 9.

Rhodesian silence

From Mrs M. D. Lovday

Sir, To some of us who have lived in Rhodesia the sudden thing about the present debate is that neither the media nor the Western politicians can hear the voices of many thousands of Rhodesian blacks who beg their white friends and employers (often with tears) not to leave them to the "mercy" of black

Yours faithfully,

M. D. LOVDAY,

63 Canon Street,

Winchester, Hampshire.

## Fight against racial discrimination

From the Chairman of the Committee for Racial Equality

Sir, I have great respect for the experience and views of Mrs Margaret Legum, whose interesting article you published on August 17, but I believe that her pessimism is also reflected in your headline—

We are in the Commission are encouraged by the evidence of strong public support for our objectives.

I hope this will be all the stronger in the time ahead, after recent events have shown the damage that

can be done to race relations by small extremist minorities.

Yours faithfully,

DAVID LANE, Chairman,

Committee for Racial Equality

Elliot House,

10-12 Allington Street, SW1

August 18.

I have spoken to many children who are at state school, and I have yet to find one (excepting those at our splendid grammar schools) who has ever been given work to do at home on a regular basis. The result is that as soon as they get back to their houses, most of them, out of sheer boredom, switch on the television and remain in front of it for the rest of the evening.

Why, I wonder, are children in comprehensive schools given no homework? Is it too much trouble for the teachers to correct it the next day?

I remain, etc.

ROALD DAHL,

Cape House,

Great Missenden,

Buckinghamshire.

August 19.

## Who benefits from no homework?

From Mr Rould Dahl

Sir, My children go to private schools. As non-boarders, from the age of seven on, they have always been given plenty of homework to do. And believe me, it has better be done properly. A 12-year-old will have one and a half hours of homework after 8.45 am. A poor boarder will have the equivalent amount of prep in the evenings.

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August 19.

The kind of discrimination which has the most far-reaching effects is, for example, the application of systems by local authorities for the allocation of council housing which consistently tend to make Asians and West Indians queue for longer and to put them in poor accommodation when they are finally housed. This can only be tackled through the radical new powers to mount formal inquiries of policies and practices which have been created by the Race Relations Act 1976. Beside the thousands of acts of discrimination that occur, the number of individual complaints to the old Race Relations Board is insignificant, and the processing of individual complaints cannot, therefore, be the primary consideration.

The real question to be asked is will the new powers be used? Research has shown that there are, as Margaret Legum says, many other sources of disadvantage to minority groups besides discrimination that urgently need to be tackled. In this situation there is a danger that the good faith of the government may soon be questioned by those who are active in this field. Lapsing into a conspiracy theory of public affairs they might well be tempted to assume that a government which wished to avoid taking any decisive action to combat racial disadvantage could do no better than pass a radical new anti-discrimination law, fail to fund the law enforcement agency adequately, and ensure that its complexion was predominantly conciliatory.

Individual cases will set important precedents for eliminating racial discrimination, but they alone are not enough. It is also necessary to act on a broader front, together with a stronger attack on multiple deprivation and disadvantageous factors which, as Mrs Legum says, call for social programmes going far beyond legislation.

Another advance in the new Act, not mentioned by Mrs Legum, is the section placing on local authorities the specific duty to eliminate unlawful racial discrimination and to promote equality of opportunity and good race relations. Here again the Commission has an important role with its contacts and advice to local authorities.

No one should underestimate, either, the part to be played by local community relations councils not only in assisting complainants but in operating with the Commission in a concerted national strategy. Many of them now have staff working to good effect in various



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THE TIMES SATURDAY AUGUST 20 1977

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# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

### New £1,400m tap tocks will reinforce interest rates control

Ronald Pullen  
writer two large gilt-edged stocks with a nominal of £1,400m were issued yesterday. The size of the issue reflects both the City's wish to dampen enthusiasm in the gilt market, where a further fall in interest rates is widely expected soon, as well as the government's expected funding requirements from

onwards. A bigger of the two is a 91 per cent Treasury which is being issued at 5 on a partly-paid basis (gross redemption yield 3.05 per cent). The flat 9.55 per cent. The smaller issue is of 3 cent Exchequer Stock, priced at £87 for a net yield of 5.79 per cent (flat yield of 5.45 per

an earlier occasion, the 9 cent Treasury stock is down in money in August, September and October banking months since it is payable as of 15 on 30 in September. The balance in October.

Bank of England said yesterday that, in the 91 per cent Treasury stock is technically indicated. It was intended place the last short-dated the 91 per cent Exchequer Stock 1981, which was as a short "rap" and only exhausted four days

3 per cent Exchequer 1982, essentially directed is the higher taxpayer, is issued in anticipation of maturity on November 15 3 per cent Treasury stock and is payable in full on 30.

The rapid exhaustion of the short and long raps, authorities have become anxious over the last "rap" to provide

the pound's recovery of the prime rate.

Meanwhile, the pound re-

covered some of Thursday's fall against the dollar to close at 51.7404 with dealers reporting a certain amount of Bank of England intervention.

Sterling's effective depreciation index against the basket of currencies remained steady at 62.11 although the issue of the two government tap stocks helped to narrow sterling's forward discounts against the Swiss franc and other European currencies.

### American shop prices register smallest monthly gain this year

Frank Vogl  
Aug 19  
American consumer prices increased by only 0.4 per cent to register the smallest gain seen so far this

Department of Labour's show that consumer advanced at an annual 6.4 per cent over the last months, which contrasts with a rate of increase of 10 per cent in the winter of 1977.

Encouraging inflation overshadowed the effect of the widely expected increase by Citibank of 7 per cent that it is raising its lending rate to 7 per cent more far towards increased tightening of credit policies.

Despite the decline in the money stock over the last week, which amounted to some \$1,500m (about £857m) on the narrowly defined M1 basis, the money supply has increased on this basis over the last three months at an annual rate of 9.4 per cent, which compares with the Fed's target growth range of 4 to 6.5 per cent.

Citibank's prime rate rise is in response to the general increase in short-term interest rates over the last few weeks, which has seen the rate for Federal funds rise by about 0.50 per cent to around 6 per cent in July.

The result of a rise in consumer price index of 0.6 per cent in June and there has been an increase of 6.7 per cent over the last 12 months to stand today at 18.26 (1967 equals 100).

New data reveal that nominal gnp in the second quarter rose by 13.7 per cent to an annualized \$1,870,000m and thus, as Americans put it, the economy here is moving rapidly towards the "two trillion dollar" level.

Department of Labour's real earnings, which a key role in influencing consumer spending, fell 0.4 per cent in July.

Department of Trade's action to curb imports from Taiwan, mainly Far East, has met with only approval from trade representing United States shoe industry.

Department of Trade's action on Thursday imports of non-leather from Taiwan would be restricted to 7.5 million in the coming 12 months, surveillance licenses be required for imports of footwear from several countries, was described as a first step towards the help needed.

The unions' reaction to a meeting at the London of officials of the National Union of Leather and Allied the Association of Technical and Industrial Staffs and the Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers. The

### UK drops duties on steel from Japan

By Edward Townsend

Anti-dumping duties on imports of steel flats from Japan have been dropped by the Department of Trade, despite proof that the British steel industry has suffered materially.

The department said yesterday that its detailed inquiries, which included an on-the-spot investigation of prices in Japan, have shown that "a measure of dumping" has taken place. But the extent of the dumping did not appear sufficient to justify imposing a substantive duty.

A provisional duty of £15 a tonne on Japanese steel flats was imposed by the department on May 19, aimed at halting off a large shipment that had set out on its way to the United Kingdom. It was the second duty on steel imported from Japan and illustrated the Government's determination to take a hard line.

The provisional charge on steel flats has been allowed to lapse, however, largely because the department was obliged to follow the terms of the anti-dumping code of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

It says that duties should not be imposed if the margin of competitiveness in this case believed to be £2 or £3 a tonne—is found to be negligible.

Japanese officials also consider that they need to be on much safer ground when imposing duties because of a growing impression that the Japanese may not such decisions in the courts.

There has also been a fear that further action against Japan could lead to retaliatory moves and threaten Japanese restraints on other exports to the United Kingdom.

Despite the continuing protectionist pressures throughout Europe, the Japanese, faced with declining demand for steel on the home and export fronts, may begin to take a harder line.

Japanese steelmakers are said to be operating at less than 50 per cent of capacity and the fall in their exports is attributed particularly to growing import restrictions in the United States and Europe.

The department's investigating team is planning further talks with the Japanese authorities on the steel issue.

The British Independent Steel Producers' Association, which made the original complaint against the Japanese, said yesterday it was not surprised the duty was being imposed.

A spokesman said the association believed Japanese domestic prices of flats were "as much dumped as the export prices", and it would continue to press the Government to conduct a production cost analysis as allowed under the GATT code.

Earlier this year Mr. Borrie had pleaded with the Government for more power to stamp out secret restrictive trading agreements and price rings. He had been concerned that three recent Monopolies Commission investigations—bread, cables and copying materials—had uncovered numerous restrictive trading agreements.

The cables inquiry led to a clash between the Post Office and several leading cable manufacturers, including BICC, when the Post Office alleged that the companies had been operating in an unregistered price ring.

Stabilization studies: Government experts from some 50 countries at a three-day meeting in Geneva have set guidelines for studies to test the feasibility of schemes for stabilizing the world copper market, conference sources said.

The studies, expected to be completed by November, will concentrate on three possible international arrangements: one based on a reserve buffer stockpile of copper, another on supply management, and a third on a combination of both.

### ECGD total tops £19,000m

By Our Industrial Editor

Statutory returns made by the Export Credits Guarantees Department yesterday show that at the beginning of last month the total outstanding sums recorded against the Parliamentary sterling limit of £25,000m reached £19,274m.

It was early this year that the Government raised its statutory ceiling to help in coping with the astonishing growth in export credit financing.

There was a rise in the consumer price index of 0.6 per cent in June and there has been an increase of 6.7 per cent over the last 12 months to stand today at 18.26 (1967 equals 100).

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The proceeds will be used to develop and expand its worldwide banking business. In addition the increase in its dollar capital will help to back Barclays planned growth of non-sterling business.

The bonds will be issued through Barclays Dutch finance

### In brief

meeting asked for talks on possible further action.

### Barclays \$100m Eurodollar issue

Another clearing bank is going to the Eurodollar market for additional capital. After Midland Bank's \$75m Eurodollar issue a week ago, Barclays Bank International yesterday announced a 15-year \$100m issue with an expected coupon of 8.75 per cent.

The proceeds will be used to develop and expand its worldwide banking business. In addition the increase in its dollar capital will help to back Barclays planned growth of non-sterling business.

The bonds will be issued through Barclays Dutch finance

### Shares up after profit-taking

Share prices rallied strongly after early profit-taking on the London Stock Exchange yesterday. The FT Index closed at 487.71 up 0.1 up on the day and better by 1.52 over the week. Gilt-edged stocks also rallied late in the day.

Investor's week, page 17.

### Boilermakers merger cleared

The intended merger between Clarke Chapman and Raylone Parsons has been given the go-ahead by Mr. Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, and will not be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

The bonds will be issued through Barclays Dutch finance

### Rises

Adwest 10p to 250p  
Babcock & W. 3p to 126p  
Crelan Slides 5p to 26p  
Eccelstyns Pd 4p to 52p  
Barclays Corp 10p to 102p  
Coca Cola Stock 4p to 60p  
Lafarge 8p to 331p  
Liberian 8p to 315p  
Malayan Tin 15p to 460p

Peko WallSEND 15p to 210p

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## PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Small companies trusts

## Electra-fying a neglected sector

From the team that gave you the biggest investment trust in the United Kingdom comes a new small companies fund. Or to be more precise, two new small companies funds, one orthodox, one exempt, designed by Electra House as vehicles for institutional participation in companies capitalized at under £20m.

Any attempt to revive interest in this neglected area is to be welcomed. It is faintly ironical that the latest initiative has come from Electra House, which has recently devoted its energies to unscrambling the time disallowed crossholdings of the Cable and Globe investment trusts, merging them in the process into a £160m dinosaur to dwarf the sector.

But that aside, it is refreshing to see that a major investment manager like Electra—with £350m under its wings—does not feel itself too big to bother with a new, and initially small, venture.

Some 30 institutions have already put up a total of £30m over the past few weeks. Around £1m of that has come from Electra's existing trusts. Two thirds of the money raised has come from gross funds, going into the exempt trust, where the minimum initial holding is £50,000.

The Small Companies Fund, for other institutions, has a minimum subscription of £25,000. Both are authorized unit trusts, going for above average yield and capital growth, specializing in smaller industrial companies.

The concept is not new. There are already a number of funds, some open to the general investor, some exclusively institutional, vehicles offering specialization in this area. Barclays' Unicorn 500 is far and away the largest at around £43m.

Hambros has two such trusts—Smaller Companies at around £11m and Second Smaller Companies at £3m.

New Court comes some way down the size league at £11m, while Key Fund Managers quietly launched a small companies unit trust last October, which already has £3m in funds under its belt.

While the latter is open to the public, it has not yet been actively promoted, mainly because the problems of the parent merchant bank, Keyser Ullmann, have meant the entire group keeping a low profile. The bulk of the funds in the trust have come from institutions participating on a share exchange basis. Its first report to unitholders shows a very high turnover of stocks in its portfolio.

There are some other funds catering exclusively for institutions. New Court has a sister exempt fund in the Channel Islands. Key Fund Managers operates a £2.5m exempt trust, while Hambros is dusting off one of its small exempt vehicles with a view to relaunching it this winter as an institutional vehicle for investment in smaller companies.

The idea behind the Electra launch is that the majority of institutions have neither the time nor the resources to invest sensibly in small groups, but are willing to participate on an indirect basis.

Lack of institutional support has resulted in what Electra terms a "two tier market", where good quality small groups tend to sell on much higher yields and lower multiples than larger companies in the same product mix.

There are, from the institutional viewpoint, a number of problems associated with small company investment. A relatively small holding in terms of value can result in the institution ending up with a fairly large proportion of a company's equity, putting it in a position of responsibility not just to its own fund and beneficiaries, but also to the company and its other shareholders.

In the past a few institutions, like the Imperial Group's Pension Fund, have achieved good performance by making a speciality of investing in smaller companies rather than sticking solidly to the blue chips.

But with stockmarkets becoming trickier in the last half decade, fund managers are more than ever tending to steer clear of this type of investment.

Thinking appears to have been partly influenced by events in the United States, where the fiduciary duties of managers and trustees are being regarded more critically by beneficiaries of pension and other institutional funds.

As one United Kingdom manager put it: "No one is going to worry if you lose money in Marks & Spencer." But if a manager comes a cropper in some relatively obscure stock he is putting his head on the chopping board.

At the same time, there is an awareness that the gap between the ratings bestowed on small and large companies is widening to an unjustified extent, even considering the problems of marketability and security.

At the same time there is increasing political pressure for

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The idea behind the Electra launch is that the majority of institutions have neither the time nor the resources to invest sensibly in small groups, but are willing to participate on an indirect basis.

Thinking appears to have been partly influenced by events in the United States, where the fiduciary duties of managers and trustees are being regarded more critically by beneficiaries of pension and other institutional funds.

As one United Kingdom manager put it: "No one is going to worry if you lose money in Marks & Spencer." But if a manager comes a cropper in some relatively obscure stock he is putting his head on the chopping board.

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As one United Kingdom

EDITED BY MARGARET STONE

estor's week

## Stock market nudges 500 but unchanged MLR disappoints

est on the London stock

er this week centred on

the FT index would

be 500 barrier.

a strong, it promised

on a couple of occasions

to take profits

too strong. Jobbers were

up to mark down prices

attempt to attract stock

their books.

Nevertheless, prices reached

best levels for 4½ years

way and at last night's

of 487.7 the index was up

over the week, its best

level being the 490.4

on Tuesday.

the institutions revert

their more traditional

looking 12 months ahead

ignoring shorter term

at hazards—in this

the level of pay settle-

deals feel that 500

be breached in the next

the drop in prices at

of last week, demand

today was confined to

"cheap" buying at the

levels. But the market

to life on Tuesday when

strength of sterling and

another cut in interest

(subsequently dashed)

shares their second best

the year and put no less

points on the index.

the following two days a

was reversed by

taking the particular

on Thursday being

of England's signal

the money markets

wanted an unchanged

in lending rate. In

the market's reaction

as no surprise to

felt that talk of

MLR had been

inistic.

had been an im-

factor in a strong gil-

which, in general,

to hold on to its gains

began the week

had, at best, ranged

EI though the Bank's

market signal coupled

further than expected

in the money supply,

er prices significantly

shudder through the property

## MAIN CHANGES OF THE WEEK

## RISES

Years	Year's	Company	Turnover	Comment
325p	114p	Asda	21p to 325p	Dividend potential and
588p	271p	Beecham	70p to 580p	Big dividend rise
244p	104p	Costain	12p to 238p	Building industry revival
—	—	City Hotels	15p to 98p	Speculative interest
518p	340p	Unilever	30p to 518p	Quarterly figures

## FALLS

131p	60p	Albright & Wilson	8p to 114p	Gloomy forecast
107p	20p	Pye	70p to 57p	Profits below
220p	58p	Redteam	6p to 200p	Opposition to Rhon
247p	146p	M/C Ship	8p to 212p	Dredging cost worries
178p	102p	Ocean Trans	8p to 151p	Lack of interest

Dealers commented, though, that there was a lively two-way trade on most days. The event of the week was undoubtedly Beecham's announcement of Treasury permission to increase its dividend threefold. The announcement was preceded by a two-hour suspension and the shares jumped 42p in a single day. Over the week the sates added 70p to 590p.

Another "blue chip" to make

news was Unilever which rose

30p to 518p after quarterly

figures well above market

expectations. But Tube Investments fell heavily immediately after a widely-expected rights issue because the accompanying

dividend forecast did not

live up to some expectations.

The shares were suspended at 49p after

an approach for some of its

aviation interests.

The building industry sector

benefited from hopes that

lower interest rate might stimulate

the flagging industry and

also that the government might

be disposed to give a boost to

relieve unemployment. Contracting shares were particularly

prominent with Costain

leading the way with a rise of

12p to 238p. Any increase in

activity would inevitably boost

cement shares and here AP

Cement led the way with a

gain of 14p to 22p in spite of

being below its best on profit

taking.

Profit taking also clipped

back-store shares, but they

displayed some strength during

the week on the hope of even

better consumer spending in

the autumn.

David Mott

## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Stock markets

## Late rally recoups early losses

The Bank of England's directive on interest rates coupled with end-of-account influences brought light, but widespread profit taking.

But with prices being marked up in the days ahead of the new account the market wore a much healthier look by the close when the FT Index, 6.8 up at 2 pm, stood at 487.7, a net rise on the day of just 0.1.

Over what has been an eventful week with the index threat-

the unchanged MLR and Ham-

merion "A" lost 8p to 512p;

Property & Residential "A,"

5p to 245p, Edward Stanley 5p

to 150p and Stock Conversion

3p to 208p.

At 475p Rankin & Coleman

stands broadly flat, its six months to June 30 come next month. Recent profits have

aroused thanks to strong products such as "famous mustard and "Disprin," and the slide in sterling, important for a group drawing four-fifths of profit from abroad. This slide has stopped, and as the

times pass we could even see exchange gains. Not can the new

drive. Bumper profits contribute usefully to the next year or two. The shares could now run out of puff.

News of possible talks next

week to resolve the Financial

Times' dispute had C. Pearson

from the bottom but still 2p lower at 107p. Elsewhere in the sector

there were subdued performances from Bowater at 155p and Reed 196p.

In the light of its annual

report, Distillers' 5p better at 25p while elsewhere in the

electrical sector BICC dipped 4p to

126p against a back-ground of

Scotstitch factory closures. But

Thorn "A" were a good spot

clothing with a rise of 6p to 364p.

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In front of figures due next

month Wedgwood dipped 4p to

285p while C. Pearson's

10.1% up to 215p and

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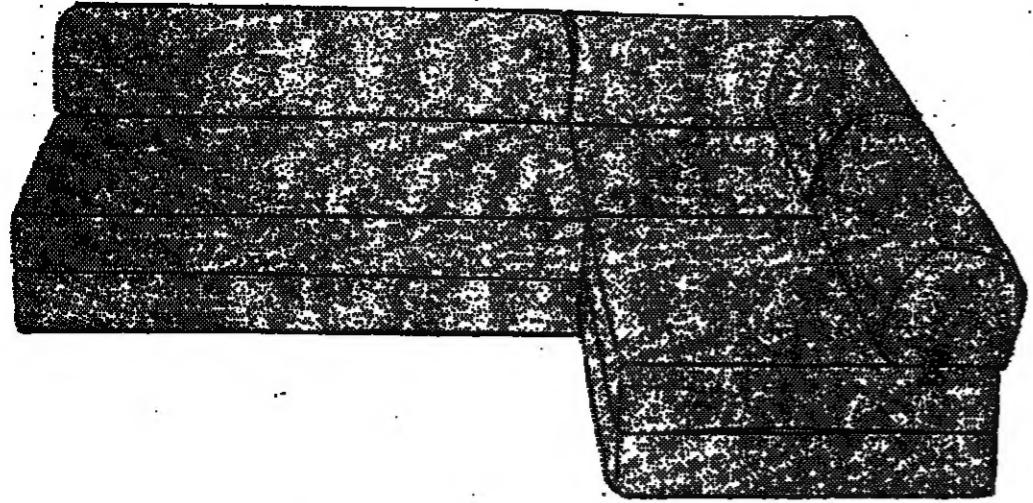
## Stock Exchange Prices

## Quiet end to account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Monday. Dealings End, Sept 2. 5 Contango Day, Sept 5. Settlement Day, Sept 13.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

## Sitting comfortably in the work house



Let me ask you a riddle. How do you furnish a house in which spare rooms double as working offices complete with desk, typewriter and comfortable seating for the work that has to be done in conference between two or more people, and still have the rooms pleasant to look at as well as comfortable for both working and sleeping?

My own answer is a Habitat desk and shelf units with Adeptus chairs or settees. Each working room, of which one is often used by an elderly visitor, has an Adeptus settee made of two armchairs. The chairs open up to make nice, thick foam beds. You can buy them without arms (quicker for conversion to sleeping), with just a back (also quick to convert) or with two arms (slower to convert, but only marginally although you need more space to fit the unfolded arm somewhere). Our drawing shows two single beds, one with a back and the other with two arms, teamed with a double bed to make a large corner seating unit or to open up to sleep four in comfort. They are of really firm foam with softer foam in the back or arm which becomes a headrest for head or pillow. The range of covers is good—I have blue denim reversed to the darker blue side for the room used by visiting grandsons or elderly relatives and bright green corduroy in the office where quite a number of people, including a tall grand-daughter, sleep.

The single chair with back is £22.50 in kit form if you make your own covers, £34.20 already covered or £38.90 when covered in your own material, which you can buy and have delivered direct to the Adeptus works.

Then there is a slightly chair-bed range—although the smaller is fine, especially for temporary visitors. In fact, the smaller chairs are better. The double unit with back only, is £42.50, £59.90 or £68.25 for kit covered

and your own covers. The service of fitting your own covers is especially useful and they have an arrangement with the John Lewis group that yardage is delivered directly to them, but I am sure most places would do the same.

Besides the sleep/sit range, there are many upholstered chairs and settees at Adeptus. Zoe is a very classical two-seater sofa in brown denim at £27.50 about which you can hardly complain. The foam is so firm that all Adeptus units keep their shape really well, and the tight covers resist creasing. There are deep, wide club armchairs, very modern but with traditional loose cushions and the old solid look. In the S range you can build up your furniture by joining a lot of narrow upholstered pieces, from narrow chair to wide settee.

The Jigsaw, rather like a piece of jigsaw with a straight back and curving seat, is strangely comfortable and there is a less exaggerated version called Fortune Solo looks Italian and is extremely easy to strip and recover after washing. Nostia, a comfortable easy chair, is the devil to strip and recover but does look nice. Oddly, most Adeptus pieces look just as good with a dainty or traditional Liberty print or with modern denims and corduroys. There are showrooms and shops in Northern Ireland and all around Britain at Bristol, Manchester, Birmingham, Oxford, Aberdeen, Lincoln and three in London at Islington, Primrose Hill, or Sicilian Avenue off Southampton Row, just north of Kingsway and near a large underground car park in Bloomsbury Square.

I like low seats. I like sort

of back-to-back seats and I like

their very prompt service—

when they say three weeks they mean three weeks: I like the

fact that all covers are removable and zip on again. And I like the fact that they do efficient mail order sales for those who cannot get to one of their shops—many of which are now too new to have reached

telephone directories so ask for the name of your local from Adeptus at 192 Eels Pond Road, Islington, London N1 (01-359 6791).

I used a Sitikit for months in my car and perhaps that was too long because I found myself thinking that it really made no difference to my comfort, even on the longest journeys. Then I lent it to a passenger on a longish drive and he was delighted with it while I—who had become so used to it—realized that I did not like being without it. So it was a good idea after all.

Sitikit is a rectangular "cushion", about 18 inches long by

10 inches wide. It is foam-soft on one side and a hard board

on the other, and this cushion is zipped into a vinyl

"envelope". You use it as a back cushion—I use it that way with the hard side against my back but many prefer the softness—or as a seat, especially on soft upholstery, or even in bed, where I have not tried it. I find it a great boon when typing and have even given up my old typing chair because, with a gap low in the back, it did not allow my Sitikit to stay put. The curves into which your spine goes when you have no correct posture base or back make your backache—after a day's typing I feel as if I had been hauling weights or bending all day and Sitikit does a great deal to prevent that particular kind of exhaustion. I found that it took rather a lot of getting used to—particularly when used as a seat base. But it is worth it for car or office or for anyone with back trouble. It is not cheap at £9.80 but it is well conceived for it looks just like a document case when carried about with you and makes a lot of difference to Wimbledon or cricket matches—and what a great week this has been for British cricket. It weighs 26 ounces, does give your spine a fair chance (and where would we be without good spines?) and it is sold directly by mail from E. Lacy-Hulbert, designer and maker, Wake's Way, Itchenor, Chichester, Sussex PO20 7AN. Choose from tan, beige or black and sponge it clean if it ever gets dirty which mine perhaps because it is black, never seems to do.

Malcolm and Joy Wilcox started designing PVC aprons more than ten years ago, specializing in the old-fashioned advertisements or merchandise labels. They literally made the aprons in their own kitchens and could hardly keep pace with demand, so progress has been faster than they had dared hope. Despite having become a genuine business and largely liberated the kitchen for cooking, this enterprising pair still run a business on cottage industry lines. They employ women who prefer to work in their own homes and who make the aprons to a high standard. All kinds of accessories, like tea-towels, tote bags, and oven mitts have come into the range and PVC is now only a part of their busy lives.

Here we show one of a couple of ankle-length hostess aprons, for which I admit so strong a liking that four or five hang on the back of my kitchen door. More often in long dresses, skirts or trousers than short ones, I have practical hostess aprons as well as pretty ones. My slender daughter and grand-daughter wear prettier designs over plain, clinging long dresses and very charming they look at parties or discos or whatever the occasion is—those Laura Ashley models that have a skirt wrapping all the way round the back can even be worn with blouses only and straight black dresses look enchanting with the pastel, dainty patterns. It is a fashion that makes a change from the eternal jeans or denim skirts and waistcoats, that current uniform of the young and free who seem to me to adhere to more rigid fashion conventions than I did. We photographed the pink Mrs Beeton apron from the Wilcoxes, spread out for you to see in detail. On a white background is a busy pattern in pink and ochre. It goes on over the shoulders rather than over the head so that you do not need to untidy your hair getting it on. There is another, often sold in the same shops, in black and white, for Marshall's Icing Sugar, with a bold pattern giving an abstract impression of cakes and a wedding cake topped by what looks more like the FA Cup than a loving cup, which I assume it is meant to be. It is fetching over black or white too. In fact, hostess aprons need not be pure common sense for long skirts but attractive additions at any time so be ready to have two per

session, pretty and practical but do not be tempted by full-length PVC varieties which are cracklingly uncomfortable and really not even practical. I think hardly any are being made now. They make good Christmas presents and might even encourage recipients to help with the washing up, provided the house hold has not given itself that most useful of all appliances; a dishwasher, which seems to be getting more expensive by the week. However, as I have been saying for years and years, you never want to live without one when you've owned one for a time and I have since they were in two figures, which means that my machine has so far cost

me peanuts annually, saved me hot water, given me cleaner dishes, tidy kitchens and more time for work or my guests. But that is off the track. Aprons like Mrs Beeton and her icing sugar companion are widely stocked at most of the leading stores and especially at younger stores like Peter Robinson's Top Shop and at Fenwick's—there was a good display at Fenwick's in the Brent Cross shopping centre recently at £4.75 each and you will find many a specialist kitchen shop also has them. For local stockists write to Sari Fabrics, Barrington Road, Sydenham Farm Industrial Estate, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire (0926 35811).



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## SHOPAROUND

Exotic lanterns for outdoor barbecues look wonderful and would look just as good indoors provided the ceiling is high enough to give them dangling space without coming into contact with everyone's hairdo. These lanterns are in the Eli Lighting range and make good office or shop decoration too. If buying for your home, do check the ceiling heights.

Hand-made in wool and cotton yarns with little "heads" of twigs and natural fruit stones, they are in a fair range of colours although I like the natural cotton or white best myself. They are flame resistant. They start at £3.90 each for smaller models and are all much the same shape, being variations on the long keep-ner that fishermen use or on pagoda shapes. The cheapest has two bigger stakables at £5.20 and at £7, then the prices move up fast. You can be really dramatic with a seven-foot long model to make a pillar of light and excitement in a large room, running almost from ceiling to floor and looking very good in russet colours as well as white, but that will cost £45. A four-foot net is £20 and there are square and pagoda designs, at about £15.

The photograph shows the shortest and the tallest. They have no rings for normal fitting so that they must be hung by their loops from a brass hook or short chain which adds nine or ten inches to the length of the fitting itself. But they are real features in any decoration scheme, admired by all, and are excellent on staircases—which mostly have one or two places with high ceilings—because the bulb is hidden by the length but the light is not dimmed. Stockists include most larger Woolworth branches, Debenhams, John Lewis, United Drapery Stores and a lot of independent lighting or gift shops around the country. Eli's headquarters office is at Burston House, Burston Road, London SW15 6AR (01-788 9191).

Photograph Trevor Sutton

Kitchen Devils are more than 10 years old but it was roughly 10 years ago that I first came across these useful impes. I remember using them for some time and then being unable to write about them until my fingers had healed because I had not allowed for their extreme sharpness. Harold Pearson, who had found no sharp knives in Britain then, had originally imported some from Germany and then set about looking for the best sharp-knife maker in Britain, finally ending up with Taylors' Eye-Witness makers, whose lamb's foot knives and surgical steel had already become famous.

The alliance has continued

because Pearson's designs improve and simplify while Taylors' hold the standards. Many months ago, I complained to Harold Pearson that there were too few sharp knives with really short blades—we all seem to peel or pare with only a short length of the blade which means wasting half the blade or holding the knife uncomfortably half-way down the blade. As though telepathy had been at work, he had on his desk a trial design, a short-bladed paring knife and he sent it along about £15.

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